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WORLD NEWS

NUCLEAR ISSUES



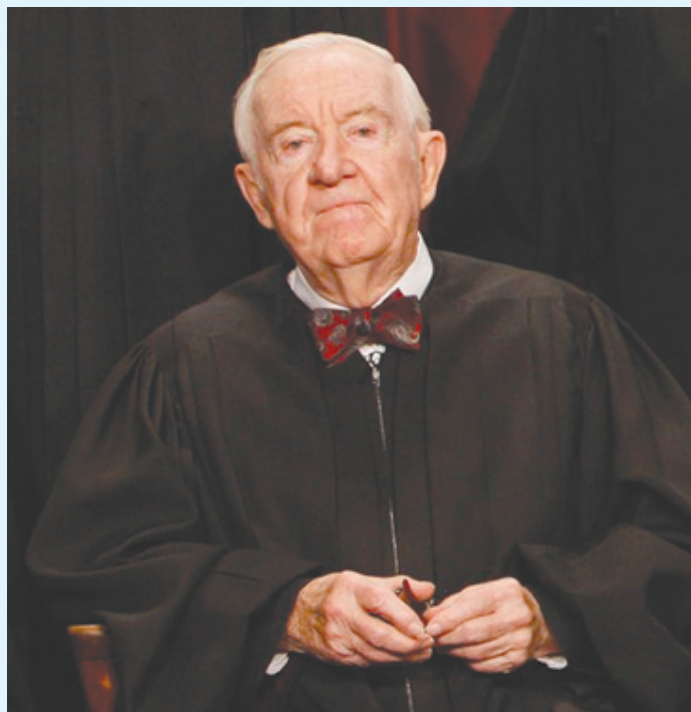
South Korea activists shout slogans during a rally opposing the United States' policy against North Korea before the arrival of Assistant Secretary of State Kurt Campbell at the Foreign Ministry in Seoul, South Korea, Friday, April 2, 2010.
Read more on Page A9

SPORTS NEWS

COUPLES RETREAT



First round leader Fred Couples stretches on the second fairway during the second round of the Masters golf tournament in Augusta, Ga., Friday, April 9, 2010.
Read more on Back page



In this Sept. 29, 2009 photo, Associate Justice John Paul Stevens sits for a group photograph at the Supreme Court in Washington. Stevens, the court's oldest member and leader of its liberal bloc, announced Friday, April 9, 2010 he is retiring, saying he will step down when the court finishes its work for the summer in late June or early July.
Associated Press

Summer battle ahead for Stevens' court replacement

MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The retirement of John Paul Stevens, the U.S. Supreme Court's leading liberal but a justice who also could find conservative allies, is likely to set off an election-year political battle over President Barack Obama's second high court pick. Obama said he would quickly name a successor in Stevens' same mold. The retirement of Stevens, the oldest justice on the nine-member court, will not change the ideological makeup of America's top court, but it will likely provide some young blood to its liberal wing. The court became more conservative as a result of two justices selected by former President George W. Bush. The nominations are especially important because justices serve until they retire or die. That means Obama's choice could shape the court for decades, long after he leaves office.

Continued on next page



Sarah Palin speaks at the Southern Republican Leadership Conference in New Orleans, Friday, April 9, 2010
Associated Press

Palin, Obama spar from a distance

LIZ SIDOTIA

AP National Political Writer

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — President Barack Obama and Republican Sarah Palin sparred from a distance over nuclear policy with each questioning the other's experience on the issue in a potential preview of the 2012 White House race.

"Unbelievable," Palin said earlier this week after Obama rewrote the U.S. nuclear strategy, and she suggested the president was weak on nuclear defense.

Continued on page 4

Russia furious over adopted boy sent back from U.S.

KRISTIN M. HALL

NATALIYA VASILYEVA

Associated Press Writers

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia threatened to suspend all child adoptions by U.S. families Friday after a 7-year-old boy adopted by a woman from Tennessee was sent alone on a one-way flight back to Moscow with a note saying he was violent and had severe psychological problems.

The boy, Artyom Savelyev, was put on a plane by his adopted grandmother, Nancy Hansen of Shelbyville.

"He drew a picture of our house burning down and he'll tell anybody that he's going to burn our house down with us in it," she told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

Continued on page 8



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Court replacement

Continued from front page

Obama's nominee must be confirmed by Democratic-led Senate. Supreme Court nomination hearings often lead to contentious political battles over abortion and other divisive issues.

The debate over Obama's nominee could be especially fierce, given the intense partisanship in the United States. Obama recently prevailed in a bitter battle over his health care overhaul, and Republicans are vying to reclaim both chambers of Congress in the November elections.

Stevens, who turns 90 April 20, said he will step down when the court finishes its work in late June or early July. He said he hopes his successor is confirmed "well in advance of the commencement of the court's next term" in October. His announcement leaves ample time for the White

House to settle on a successor and for Senate Democrats, who control a 59-vote majority in the 100-member chamber, to hold confirmation hearings and a vote. Republicans have not ruled out attempts to delay confirmation.

"We cannot replace Justice Stevens' experience or wisdom," Obama said at the White House after returning from Prague where he had signed a nuclear treaty. "I'll seek someone in the coming weeks with similar qualities: an independent mind, a record of excellence and integrity, a fierce dedication to the rule of law and a keen understanding of how the law affects the daily lives of the American people. It will also be someone who, like Justice Stevens, knows that in democracy powerful interests must not be allowed to drown out the voices of ordinary citizens."

A White House official said about 10 people are under consideration, but speculation has focused on fewer than that. Leading candidates are

said to be Solicitor General Elena Kagan, 49, and federal appellate Judges Merrick Garland, 57, in Washington and Diane Wood, 59, in Chicago. All three were considered last year as well, and Obama interviewed Kagan and Wood before choosing Sonia Sotomayor for the high court.

Of those, Wood would be most likely to excite Obama's liberal base and stir up conservative opposition. Garland is seen as most acceptable to Republicans, with Kagan somewhere in between.

Stevens is the court's last remaining World War II veteran and the second oldest justice in the court's history. His retirement had been hinted at for months, and the White House had made clear it would be ready to nominate a replacement without delay.

A leading Democrat said the Senate, where Democrats control 59 seats, would follow the same pattern as last year, when Sotomayor was

confirmed as the 111th justice in early August. Patrick Leahy, a Democrat and chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, appealed for civility. "I hope that senators on both sides of the aisle will make this process a thoughtful and civil discourse," he said.

Looking toward those hearings, Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky said, "Americans can expect Senate Republicans to make a sustained and vigorous case for judicial restraint and the fundamental importance of an evenhanded reading of the law."

Republicans have not ruled out efforts to delay confirmation, and GOP Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah said Obama would face a "whale of a fight" he nominated an activist judge.

At the very least, the high court nomination could rev up both Democratic and Republican fundraising machines for the November election, even though Stevens' replacement by a liberal-leaning justice would not alter the court's



President Barack Obama arrives in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, Friday, April 9, 2010, to speak about the retirement of Supreme Court justice John Paul Stevens and the West Virginia mine tragedy.

Associated Press

ideological balance. Ideologues of both sides were ready for a conflict.

Jay Sekulow, chief counsel at the conservative American Center for Law and Justice, said, "President Obama is likely to name a nominee who will embrace an extremely liberal judicial philosophy."



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Mourning begins as W.Va. mine search resumes

LAWRENCE MESSINA
VICKI SMITH

Associated Press Writers
MONTCOAL, West Virginia (AP) — Grieving relatives began burying victims of the Upper Big Branch coal mine disaster Friday as rescue crews ventured back into the blast-damaged shaft for another agonizingly slow, dangerous and probably hopeless search for survivors.

It was their fourth attempt to find the four miners missing since Monday's explosion killed 25 others in America's worst underground disaster since at least 1984. During the previous rescue attempts, searchers were forced to withdraw by dangerous gases and the risk of fire or explosion.

"We are praying for a miracle," President Barack Obama said in Washington.

Rescuers acknowledged that was what it would take for the miners to have made it to a refuge chamber stocked with food, water and enough oxygen for several days.

On Friday morning, rescuers made their way about 1,000 feet (305 meters) underground and five miles (eight kilometers) into the mine to examine one of the chambers, but no one was inside and smoke forced them to turn back before they could check a second one that would represent the last hope the four were alive.

"We're confident that if they got in there, and they were alive, that we would be able to still rescue them," said Kevin Stricklin of the federal Mine Health and Safety Administration.

The area was flushed with nitrogen and crews headed back inside in the afternoon for what was likely to be a three- or four-hour trip to the chamber, an expandable box activated by opening a door and pulling a lever.

Officials had hoped to lower a camera into the mine to see if the chamber had been used, but

the hole was drilled slightly off target, and Stricklin said they would not have been able to see anything.

More than 300 people packed the Mullens Pentecostal Holiness Church for the funeral of Benny Willingham, a 61-year-old miner who was five weeks from retiring when he died.

Willingham was dressed in a red shirt in the open coffin, jet-black hair and mustache neatly combed, family snapshots tucked in the satin around his head and shoulders. The image of a pick, shovel and miner's helmet was embroidered in the fabric along with his name, and a flag draped the lower half of his coffin in a nod to his service during the Vietnam era in the Air Force.

Officials suspect the blast was caused by a buildup of methane gas. In Washington, Obama said he asked federal mine safety officials to give him a report on the disaster next week, and the House and Senate said they would hold hearings.

In the days since the explosion, details have emerged about a long list of safety violations at the mine. The owner, Massey Energy Co., has been repeatedly cited and fined for problems with the system that vents methane and for allowing combustible dust to build up. CEO Don Blankenship has strongly defended the company's record and disputed accusations from miners that he puts coal profits ahead of safety. Federal regulators issued evacuation orders for all or parts of the mine more than 60 times since the start of 2009, according to a report prepared for Sen. Robert Byrd of West Virginia.

On Sept. 23, 2009, an evacuation order showed an inspector found that management considered production more important than safety twice at Upper Big Branch mine, in instances of skipping mandatory checks of a piece of heavy equipment.



West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin, left, and Kevin Stricklin, at podium, of the Miners Safety and Health Administration inform the media early Friday, April 9, 2010 that mine rescue crews are re-entering the Upper Big Branch mine where the twenty five coal miners died and four remain missing following a Monday evening explosion in Montcoal, West Virginia. Associated Press

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Palin, Obama

Continued from front page

Obama, in Prague to sign a nuclear reduction treaty with Russia, countered by deriding the former Alaska governor who resigned midway through her first term as "not much of an expert" on nuclear issues. Palin then shot back Friday during a speech to the Southern Republican Leadership Conference in New Orleans with a reference to Obama's early career choice. Mocking the president, she dismissed "all the vast nuclear experience that he acquired as a community organizer." Playing out over several days and across the globe, the spat foreshadowed what the country could see come the next presidential race should Palin run for president and win



President Barack Obama and Russian president Dmitry Medvedev sign the New START treaty, Thursday, April 8, 2010, at the Prague Castle in Prague.

Associated Press

the Republican nomination. The 2008 vice presidential nominee is among roughly a dozen Republicans weighing candidacies. It's a wide-open field but Republican insiders say Palin would be a serious contender if she got in the race. She is beloved by tea party activists. She's a political

celebrity who draws tons of media coverage. And she has an ability to raise big money. But she's also polarizing, and there's no evidence that she can broaden her base of support beyond conservatives to win the Republican nomination, much less to beat a popular Democratic president.

Nevertheless, Palin is leaving the door open to a candidacy and has spent the past few months pummeling Obama in speeches, interviews and online. She used her speech in New Orleans to blister the president repeatedly, as did several of her potential rivals who also spoke at the three-day event.

But, until now, Obama hadn't responded directly to Palin. The president typically doesn't counter criticism from Republicans weighing whether to challenge him. Doing so always has the potential to elevate a rival. The spat began Wednesday when Palin criticized Obama's rewriting of the U.S. nuclear defense policy. Her comments came during an interview on Fox News, where she is a paid

analyst. She likened Obama to a kid poised for a playground fight who said, "Go ahead, punch me in the face and I'm not going to retaliate. Go ahead and do what you want to with me."

Palin was particularly incensed about the policy that says if a non-nuclear state were to use chemical or biological weapons against the U.S. or its allies, it would face a potentially devastating conventional military strike by the U.S., but not a nuclear one. "No administration in America's history would, I think, ever have considered such a step that we just found out President Obama is supporting today," Palin said. Across the globe in Prague, Obama was asked by ABC News to respond to the criticism.

"I really have no response," the president said. "Because last I checked, Sarah Palin's not much of an expert on nuclear issues."

Obama added: "If the secretary of Defense and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff are comfortable with it, I'm probably going to take my advice from them and not from Sarah Palin."

Palin got what could be the last word in her Friday speech in New Orleans. Among several potential candidates addressing the Republican rank and file at the conference, Palin got a rousing reception from the few thousand activists in attendance and delivered a speech rife with platitudes for the Republicans and criticism for Democrats. Some in the crowd responded with a "Run, Sarah, run" chant. She didn't say whether she would.

But Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal made his plans clear, telling the audience: "I am not running for president of the United States of America. I've got the job that I want."

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Lawmakers reporting more threats of violence

JIM ABRAMS

LAURIE KELLMAN

Associated Press Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of serious threats, including death threats, against members of Congress jumped in the past three months during the heated debate over the new U.S. health care law.

The leader of the House of Representatives, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the target of phone attacks that brought an arrest this week, said in an interview Thursday the 24/7 nature of news and commentary can provoke an emotional response that leads people to act before they can check their own behavior or the truth of what they've heard.

"We all have a responsibility, when we make our appeal to the public, to understand that sometimes these fall on ears of people who can't cope with that kind of information," she said.

Senate Sergeant-at-Arms Terrance W. Gainer, who monitors security in the House and the Senate, said lawmakers reported 42 incidents in the first three months of this year, nearly three times the 15 cases during the same time last year.

That period coincided with debate and eventual passage of health care overhaul legislation, one of the most partisan and divisive issues Congress has taken up since the civil rights battles a half-century ago. Democrats and a few Republicans reported receiving threats against them or their families.

But threats against elected officials are as old as the nation itself. Ray Smock, who served as historian of the House from 1983 to 1995, recalled that in the 1960s, supporters of civil rights legislation "got all kinds of racist mail."

"Every Ku Klux Klanner and other white supremacist groups were making death threats," Smock said.

But he said the anger has taken on new dimensions in the past two decades with the advent of 24-hour cable news and the expansion of political talk shows. "I do think that people who are sort of on the ragged edge can get inflamed by all this rhetoric," said Smock, who now heads the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies at Shepherd University in West Virginia.

More potentially heated debates

are brewing between now and the November elections, including the nomination of a replacement for retiring Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens.

So far, nearly all of the threats appear linked to opponents of health care legislation, Gainer said. At least three people have been arrested for threatening members of Congress. Capitol police are working with the FBI and other law enforcement offices to follow up on serious threats and ensure that lawmakers' offices are safe.

A threat to assault a member of Congress in retaliation for the performance of official duties is punishable by up to a year in prison.

The most notable police action was the arrest this week of Gregory Giusti, 48, of San Francisco, who police said was so angry over the health care act that he made at least 48 calls to Pelosi's homes and offices. Pelosi told the FBI the caller had used "extremely vulgar and crude language" on two occasions when she answered the phone at her Washington home.

Also this week, authorities in Yakima, Washington, arrested

Charles Alan Wilson, 63, on a charge of threatening Sen. Patty Murray, a Democrat. In a phone conversation with an FBI agent posing as a member of a group opposing health care legislation, Wilson confirmed that he had made repeated calls to Murray and the state of Washington's other Democratic senator, Maria Cantwell, and said, "I do pack, and I will not blink when I'm confronted. ... It's not a threat; it's a guarantee."

The third arrest involved a Philadelphia man charged with threatening in an Internet video to kill No. 2 House Republican Eric Cantor. A court has ruled that Norman Leboon, 38, has multiple personalities and is not currently competent to stand trial.

In an e-mail to the campaign of Stephen Cohen, a Democrat, one person wrote: "If our tea parties had hoods, we would burn your (expletive) on a cross on the White House front lawn."

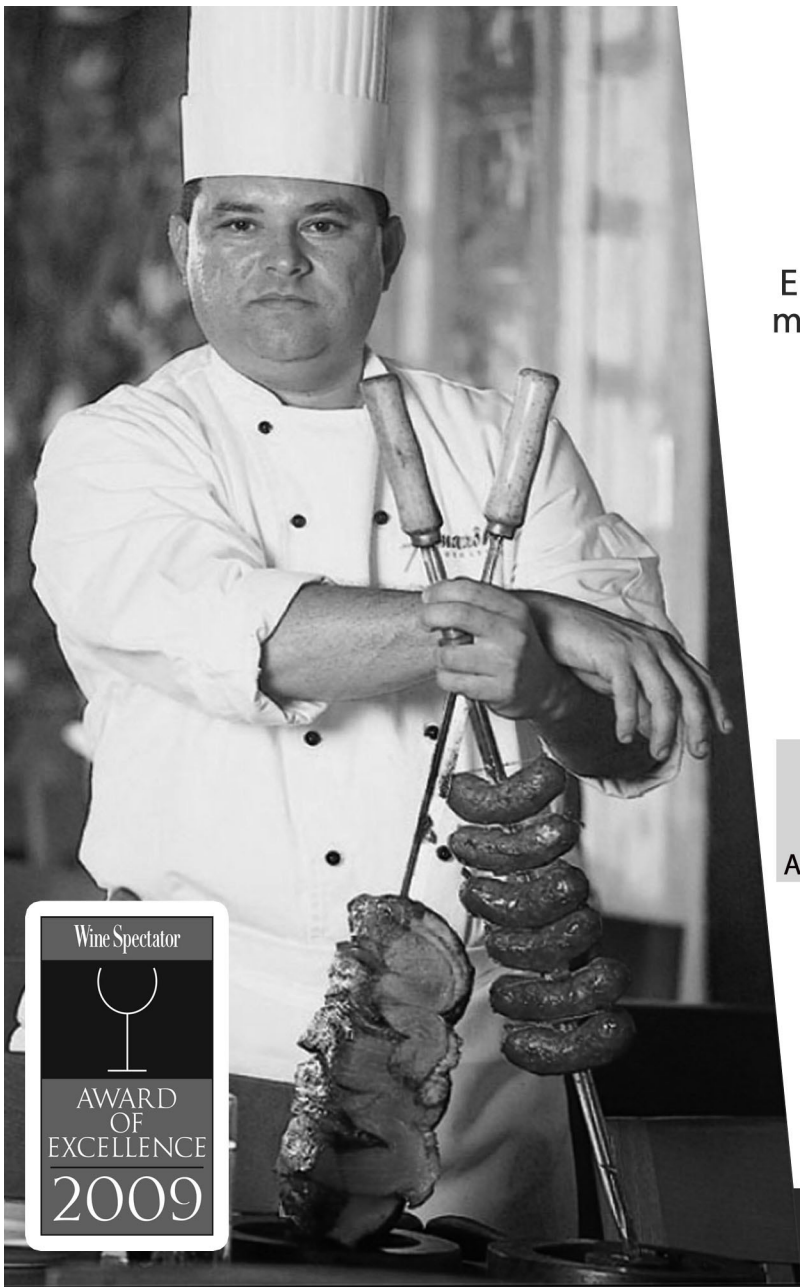
The tea party people believe that government spending and influence should be limited. The movement's name is taken from the Boston Tea Party, a 1773 protest in which activists in the then-British colonies in America



This undated photo provided by the San Mateo Sheriff's department shows Gregory Lee Giusti. Giusti, 48, angry about health care reform, allegedly made threatening and harassing phone calls to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, including at least one call in which he got through and spoke to her directly, law enforcement officials said. He was arrested Wednesday, April 7, 2010 in San Francisco.

Associated Press

boarded ships and threw their cargo of English tea into Boston Harbor in a symbolic act of protest against taxes.



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U.S. loses first Osprey in Afghanistan, 4 dead

ROBERT H. REID

Associated Press Writer

KABUL (AP) — A U.S. Air Force Osprey went down in southeastern Afghanistan, the U.S. military said Friday, killing three service members and one civilian contractor in the first crash of the costly tilt-rotor aircraft in a combat zone.

It's unclear what caused the crash of the U.S. military's latest generation transport aircraft — beset for years by cost overruns and design flaws.

A NATO statement said "numerous other service members" were injured when the aircraft, which takes off and lands like a helicopter, crashed late Thursday seven miles (11 kilometers) from Qalat, capital of Zabul province about 200 miles (300 kilometers) southwest of Kabul.

A Taliban spokesman said militants shot down the aircraft, but the insurgents often make exaggerated claims. NATO said the cause was still under investigation. A Pentagon spokesman, Marine Maj. Shawn Turner, said it was the first time that an Osprey, which cost nearly \$70 million apiece, has crashed during operations in a war zone. After years of tests and modification, the Ospreys went into service in the Air Force and Marine Corps in 2006. They were used by the Marines in Iraq starting in late 2007, mostly for transporting troops and supplies

in Anbar province. But they were not truly tested in combat there. The worst of the fighting in Anbar had already passed because many insurgents there had switched sides.

A Marine Osprey flew then-candidate Barack Obama from Iraq to Amman, Jordan, during his visit to the Middle East in July 2008.

The Air Force version is believed to be used in Afghanistan primarily for resupply missions and for transporting special operations troops hunting Taliban and al-Qaida figures.

Aircraft are used extensively in Afghanistan by both NATO and the Afghan government forces to transport and supply troops spread across this mountainous country, where roads are few and primitive.

Losses have been relatively light because unlike Iraqi insurgents, the Taliban lack shoulder-fired missiles and other anti-aircraft weapons, relying mostly on machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades to fire at aircraft during landings and takeoffs.

Nevertheless, one of the heaviest single-day losses of life for allied forces in Afghanistan occurred on June 28, 2005, when 16 U.S. troops died aboard a Special Forces MH-47 Chinook helicopter that was shot down by insurgents.

The Osprey is the U.S. military's latest-generation transport



In this Oct. 13, 2008. file photograph , a V-22 Osprey tilt rotor aircraft taxis behind the leader during a mission in western Iraqi desert. A U.S. Air Force Osprey aircraft crashed in southeastern Afghanistan, killing three service members and one government contractor, NATO said Friday. It was the first crash of the costly, tilt-rotor aircraft in a combat zone.

Associated Press

aircraft, able to travel twice as fast and three times farther than its predecessor, the Vietnam War-era CH-46 Sea Knight. With room for up to 24 passengers, it comes equipped with sophisticated guidance and missile defense systems.

However, the original development program, a \$40 billion joint venture of Boeing Co. and Textron Inc.'s Bell Helicopter unit, was beset by delays and plagued by design flaws and other problems. The Osprey was nearly canceled several times due to cost overruns and a series of fatal crashes and other incidents.

In 2000, 19 Marines were killed

when an Osprey crashed during a training exercise in Arizona. Another Osprey crash in December of that year killed four Marines in North Carolina.

Former Vice President Dick Cheney tried to kill the program in 1989 when he was defense secretary, saying the aircraft were unnecessary. But the Marines persuaded Congress to authorize the funds.

Critics say the aircraft is particularly vulnerable to small-arms fire while its engines are shifting from vertical to horizontal flight. Unlike fixed-wing aircraft, the Osprey cannot glide down to an emergency landing in case of a loss of power. Unlike helicopters, its propellers lack the capability

to keep rotating on their own even after the engines fail.

But the Osprey's supporters say the aircraft makes up for vulnerabilities by its speed, saying it can rise quickly to altitudes safe from small-arms fire. The Osprey's engines roll forward in flight, allowing it to fly faster than a standard helicopter. Also Friday, a roadside bomb struck a small bus in the western province of Herat, killing three civilians and wounding five, the head of the regional border police, Malam Khan Noorzae, said. Noorzae said a joint NATO-Afghan force had traveled along the same route the day before as part of anti-insurgency operations.



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North Korea denounces new Obama nuclear strategy

SANGWON YOON

Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— North Korea denounced President Barack Obama's new nuclear stance as "hostile" and vowed to continue expanding its atomic arsenal as the country's rubber-stamp parliament held an annual session focused on rescuing the tattered economy.

Obama earlier this week pledged to resist using nuclear weapons against nations that comply with nonproliferation standards — exempting North Korea and Iran from the new policy. Miffed by Obama's words, North Korea accused his government of being no better than the Bush administration, "hell-bent on posing a nuclear threat" to North Korea.

"As long as the U.S. nuclear threat persists, (North Korea) will increase and update various type nuclear weapons as its deterrent in such a manner as it deems necessary in the days ahead," the official Korean Central News Agency

quoted an unidentified Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying Friday.

Washington and other regional powers have been trying to coax North Korea back to disarmament talks it walked out of last year, but the ministry was quoted as saying Obama's new policy "chilled the hard-won atmosphere for the resumption of the talks."

North Korea cites a U.S. threat as a main reason behind its drive to build nuclear weapons. The U.S. has 28,500 troops in South Korea to guard against the North. The two Koreas remain locked in an official state of war because their three-year conflict ended in a truce, not a peace treaty, in 1953.

Meanwhile, North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly held its annual rubber-stamp session to approve bills vetted by the ruling communist Workers' Party.

Last year's gathering marked leader Kim Jong Il's triumphant return to the public eye after months out of sight

amid rumors he had suffered a stroke in 2008, but there was no sign Friday of Kim — who has skipped legislative sessions in the past — in reports issued by KCNA.

State TV did not show any footage from the session presided over by North Korea's premier, and Kim's name was not in a list of key participants mentioned in the report.

Legislators discussed plans for economic development, the state budget, constitutional revisions and personnel appointments, it said. The most important item on the agenda involved "stepping up the technological upgrading and modernizing of the national economy," KCNA said.

Late last year, the North redenominated its currency as part of efforts to lower inflation and reassert control over the nascent market economy. But the move reportedly worsened the country's food situation as markets closed and many North Koreans were angered



South Korean activists shout slogans during a rally against U.S. President Barack Obama's new nuclear policy near the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, South Korea, Thursday, April 8, 2010. The activists said Obama's plan is unfair because it allows Israel and India to possess nuclear weapons while taking issue with North Korea and Iran's atomic programs.

Associated Press

by being left with piles of worthless bills.

The session took place amid speculation that Kim would promote officials to help solidify a plan to hand over power to his youngest son, Kim Jong Un.

There are persistent questions about the health of the autocratic 68-year-old leader, who appears to be undergoing kidney dialysis every two weeks, according to Nam Sung-wook, head of the security think tank affiliated with South Korea's top spy agency. Kim also is believed to have chronic heart disease

and diabetes.

Students frolicked at "dancing parties" held Friday in the capital and across the country in honor of the 17th anniversary of Kim's selection as the nation's leader, KCNA said.

"Youth and students merrily danced to the tune of 'Glory to General,' 'Confetti of Best Wishes' in the dancing places in Pyongyang including the plazas of the Party Founding Memorial Tower, the April 25 House of Culture and the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium," the report said.



In this image taken from Rossia 1 television channel TV, 7-year-old adopted Russian boy Artyom Savelyev gets into a minivan outside a police department office in Moscow, Thursday, April 8, 2010.

Associated Press

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Russia furious

Continued from front page

"It got to be where you feared for your safety. It was terrible." Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov called the actions by the grandmother "the last straw" in a string of U.S. adoptions gone wrong, including three in which Russian children had died in the U.S.

In an exclusive interview with ABC News' George Stephanopoulos, Dmitry Medvedev said the boy "fell into a very bad family."

"It is a monstrous deed on the part of his adoptive parents, to take the kid and virtually throw him out with the airplane in the opposite direction and to say, 'I'm sorry I could not cope with it, take everything back' is not only immoral but also against the law," Medvedev said.

The cases have prompted outrage in Russia, where foreign adoption failures are reported prominently. Russian main TV networks ran extensive reports on the latest incident in their main evening news shows.

The Russian education ministry immediately suspended the license of the group involved in the adoption — the World Association for Children and Parents, a Renton, Washington-based agency — for the duration of an investigation. In Tennessee, authorities were investigating the adoptive mother, Torry Hansen, 33. Any possible freeze could affect hundreds of American families. Last year, nearly 1,600 Russian children were adopted in the United States, and more than 60,000 Russian orphans have been successfully adopted there, according to the National Council For Adoption, a U.S. adoption advocacy nonprofit group.

"We're obviously very troubled by it," U.S. State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said in Washington when asked about the boy's case. He told reporters the U.S. and Russia share a responsibility for the child's safety and Washington will work closely with Moscow to make sure adoptions are legal and appropriately monitored.

Asked if he thought a suspension by Russia was warranted, Crowley said, "If Russia does suspend cooperation on the adoption, that is its right. These are Russian citizens."

"Child abandonment of any kind is reprehensible," said Chuck Johnson, acting CEO of the National Council For Adoption. "The actions of this mother are especially troubling because an already vulnerable,

innocent child has been further victimized."

The boy arrived unaccompanied in Moscow on a United Airlines flight on Thursday from Washington. Social workers sent him to a Moscow hospital for a health checkup and criticized his adoptive mother for abandoning him.

The Kremlin children's rights office said the boy was carrying a letter from his adoptive mother saying she was returning him due to severe psychological problems.

"This child is mentally unstable. He is violent and has severe psychopathic issues," the letter said. "I was lied to and misled by the Russian Orphanage workers and director regarding his mental stability and other issues. ...

"After giving my best to this child, I am sorry to say that for the safety of my family, friends, and myself, I no longer wish to parent this child."

The boy was adopted in September from the town of Partizansk in Russia's Far East.

Nancy Hansen, the grandmother, told The Associated Press that she and the boy flew to Washington and she put the child on the plane with the note from her daughter. She vehemently rejected assertions of child abandonment by Russian authorities, saying he was watched over by a United Airlines stewardess and the family paid a man \$200 to pick the boy up at the Moscow airport and take him to the Russian Education and Science Ministry. Nancy Hansen said a social worker checked on the boy in January and reported to Russian authorities that there were no problems. But after that, the grandmother said incidents of hitting, kicking, spitting began to escalate, along with threats.

She said she and her daughter went to Russia together to adopt the boy, and she believes information about his behavioral problems was withheld from her daughter.

"The Russian orphanage officials completely lied to her because they wanted to get rid of him," Nancy Hansen said.

She said the boy was very skinny when they picked him up, and he told them he had been beaten with a broom handle at the orphanage. Joseph LaBarbera, a clinical psychologist at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, said adoptive parents are many times not aware of the psychological state of children put up for adoption.

"Parents enter into it (foreign adoption) with positive motivations but, in a sense, they are a little bit blindsided

by their desire to adopt," said LaBarbera, who specializes in the psychological evaluation of children and has worked with a number of children adopted from Russia and other foreign countries. "They're not prepared to appreciate, psychologically, the kinds of conditions these kids have been exposed to and the effect it has had on them."

Russian state television showed the child in a yellow jacket holding the hands of two chaperones as he left a police precinct and entered a van bound for a Moscow medical clinic.

The U.S. ambassador to Russia, John Beyrle, said he was "deeply shocked by the news" and "very angry that any family would act so callously toward a child that they had legally adopted."

Anna Orlova, a spokeswoman for Kremlin's Children Rights Commissioner, told The Associated Press that she visited the boy and he told her that his mother was "bad," "did not love him," and used to pull his hair.

Russian officials said he turned up at the door of the Russian Education and Science Ministry on Thursday afternoon accompanied by a Russian man who handed over the boy and his documents, then left, officials said. The child holds a Russian passport.

Rob Johnson, a spokesman for the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, said the agency is looking into Friday's allegations, although it does not handle international adoptions.

Bedford County Sheriff Randall Boyce also said Torry Hansen was under investigation, but he hasn't interviewed the Hansens because their lawyer has advised them not to talk.

Lavrov said his ministry would recommend that the U.S. and Russia hammer out an agreement before any new adoptions are allowed.

"We have taken the decision ... to suggest a freeze on any adoptions to American families until Russia and the U.S.A. sign an international agreement" on the conditions for adoptions, Lavrov said. He said the U.S. had refused to negotiate such an accord in the past but "the recent event was the last straw."

Pavel Astakhov, the children rights commissioner, said in a televised interview that a treaty is vital to protect Russian citizens in other countries.

"How can we prosecute a person who abused the rights of a Russian child abroad? If there was an adoption treaty in place, we would have legal means to protect Russian children abroad," he said.

Global life expectancy up sharply since 1950

EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press Writer

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

Global life expectancy has increased sharply from 47 years in 1950-55 to 68 years in 2005-2010, the U.N. said in a report Friday.

The report by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said people are living longer mainly because of improvements in nutrition and hygiene, and advances in vaccines and medical treatments against infectious and parasitic diseases that are “communicable.”

With the decline in mortality more pronounced at younger ages, deaths have become increasingly concentrated at older ages when people are more likely to develop “non-communicable” chronic and degenerative diseases such as cancer, diabetes, heart and respiratory problems, the report said.

Globally, it said, the proportion of deaths at age 60 or over has risen from 26 percent in 1950-55 to 54 percent in 2005-2010.

According to the report, the shift from communicable to non-communicable diseases as the main cause of deaths has occurred in all regions of the world except sub-Saharan Africa, where the HIV/AIDS epidemic is widespread and infectious and parasitic diseases still claim many lives.

If mortality continues to decline worldwide, the report said, the burden from non-communicable diseases will become even greater.

Because most of these diseases are chronic and require long-term treatment and management, it recommends that efforts be concentrated in delaying the onset of illness.

The report said governments can do this by taking measures to reduce the risk factors associated with chronic diseases such as overweight, physical inactivity, tobacco use and alcohol abuse.

It also calls for governments to address the global shortage of health workers, especially in developing countries.

Thai protesters storm into TV compound

DENIS D. GRAY

Associated Press Writer

BANGKOK (AP) —

Protesters who want a change of government in Thailand forced their way Friday into a satellite transmission complex, sending soldiers fleeing and compelling authorities to reverse a ban on their TV channel.

The action was the latest setback to government efforts to quash a month of disruptive street protests, and erodes the credibility of Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva, even among his own supporters. The army’s failure to keep order raised concerns about its loyalty to his government.

Further embarrassing the government was its failure to arrest protest leaders who spoke freely from a public stage Friday night to tens of thousands of supporters despite warrants being issued for their arrest earlier in the day.

Speaking late Friday night in a brief television address on all stations, Abhisit accused the protesters of showing arrogance, but did not explain why the government bowed to their demand that the TV channel be restored.

“Today we might be disappointed but the situation is not over yet,” he said, in reference to criticism that he has been too soft in trying to quell the protests. “We will stand firm in leading the nation back to normalcy.”

Complaints among the media and public about Abhisit’s leadership have been rising since the so-called Red Shirt protesters, who had established a base last month in the old part of Bangkok, set up a new encampment a week ago at Rajprasong intersection, in the heart of the capital’s tourist and shopping district.

Local merchants complained that the boisterous demonstrations have cost them tens of millions of baht (millions of dollars), and luxury hotels near the site have been under virtual siege. The escalating demonstrations are part of a long-running



Anti-government protesters, left, push Thai soldiers back after Red Shirts stormed into the Thaicom teleport center in Pathum Thani province, north of Bangkok, Friday April 9, 2010.

Associated Press

battle between the mostly poor and rural supporters of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, and the ruling elite they say orchestrated the 2006 military coup that removed him from power.

They see the Oxford-educated Abhisit as a symbol of the elite and claim he took office illegitimately in December 2008 with the help of military pressure on Parliament.

On Wednesday, Abhisit’s government declared a state of emergency, allowing it to impose curfews, ban public gatherings, censor media and detain suspects without charge for 30 days. One of its first moves was to halt transmission of the Red Shirt’s People Channel TV and block Web sites sympathetic to the protesters’ cause. The actions drew criticism from free speech advocates.

The protesters have been demanding that Abhisit dissolve Parliament within 15 days and call new elections. As their deadline has come and gone, they have focused on tactics to keep up pressure on the government.

Columns of protesters, riding motorcycles and pickup trucks, blared horns and waved red flags as they moved out of their two main encampments and headed north 28 miles (45 kilometers) to the Thaicom transmission station in the suburb of Pathum Thani.

The protesters, who appeared to total between 3,000 and 5,000, first set a deadline for officials to come talk to them about restoring the signal of the People Channel. They then pulled aside barbed wire and climbed over a fence to advance on about 500 soldiers inside the compound, between them and the main building, and began throwing rocks and a few firebombs.

From atop trucks, the soldiers fired water cannons and tossed canisters of mild tear gas, some of which blew back toward them — and for which they wore no masks.

After scattered hand to hand scuffles, the troops retreated in disarray, some taking positions inside the main Thaicom building. As tensions eased, smiling protesters soon began sharing water and food with soldiers who trickled back to the front lawn. About a dozen people were injured.

After talks were held between protest leaders and the authorities, agreement was reached to allow People Channel to resume broadcasting, and protesters and soldiers left the site. The station was set up and financed by Red Shirt sympathizers. A number of small community radio stations also are allied with the protesters, who also use cell phones and social networking to communicate.

“Today is a major victory

of our people who fought the soldiers with their bare hands,” Nattawut Saikua, a Red Shirt leader, told a cheering crowd Friday night at their Rajprasong rally site. He is one of 27 Red Shirt leaders for whom arrest warrants have been issued. None are known to have been taken into custody.

“The government could be seen as humiliating itself if it fails to enforce the law,” said Associate Prof. Siripan Nogsuan Sawasdee, a political scientist at Bangkok’s Chulalongkorn University.

To effectively enforce the state of emergency, the government needs the cooperation of the military, she said, but it could be that the army is reluctant to use force against the protesters.

“The military does not want to become the tool of the government,” she said. “They do not see themselves as the opposing party to the protesters.” Thailand’s military has traditionally played a significant role in politics, staging almost a score of coups since the country became a constitutional monarchy in 1932. In 2008, the army undercut the government’s authority by refusing to move against demonstrators who were protesting against a pro-Thaksin government.

Smith estate appeals ruling on oil fortune



FILE - In this Feb. 28, 2006 file photo, Anna Nicole Smith leaves the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington.
(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta,File)

SAN FRANCISCO — Lawyers for the estate of Anna Nicole Smith have appealed a ruling that gave her none of her late billionaire husband's fortune.

The appeal filed Thursday seeks a full review by the San Francisco-based 9th

U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and continues a case that has outlived both parties.

In a March 19 ruling, a panel of the court sided with a Houston jury that decided in 2001 that Texas oil tycoon J. Howard Marshall never intended to leave any of his \$1.6 billion estate to Smith. Marshall's will gave most of his estate to his son, E. Pierce Marshall.

David Margulies, a spokesman for the Marshall family, said Friday the family will continue to defend its case with the "same vigor and resolve it has in the past as this case hopefully nears an end."

Smith and Marshall married in 1994. He was 89 and she 26.

Smith had argued that her elderly husband had promised to leave her more

than \$300 million.

The case previously reached the U.S. Supreme Court, and attorneys for Smith's estate vow to again appeal to the nation's high court if necessary.

Smith died of a drug overdose in 2008 and named her 3-year-old daughter Dannielynn as heir.

The former Playboy model's ex-boyfriend Larry Birkhead and attorney Howard K. Stern were placed in charge of her estate.

Smith initially challenged the will in Houston probate court and lost.

However, a bankruptcy court in Los Angeles awarded her \$474.75 million, which was later reduced to \$89.5 million.

The legal dispute has centered on which court ruling to follow.

Body of former 'Survivor' producer's wife found Ex-'Survivor' producer free from Mexican detention

By KIRSTEN JOHNSON,
Associated Press Writer

CANCUN, Mexico — The producer of "Pimp My Ride" and formerly of "Survivor" was released from Mexican custody early Friday but remains under investigation after his wife's body was found in the sewer of a Cancun resort, a state official said.

Bruce Beresford-Redman is still a suspect and is barred from leaving Mexico, said Francisco Alor, the attorney general in Quintana Roo state, where Cancun is located. He was released just after midnight into the custody of U.S. consulate officials and taken to an undisclosed hotel.

"He can't leave the country," Alor said. "We still can't say that he is responsible, but that's the starting point of the investigation because we have witnesses who say he was the last to see her alive. Everything is heading in that direction."

Police detained the 38-year-old producer Thursday after finding the body of Monica Beresford-Redman in a sewer at the Moon Palace resort, where the family was on vacation.

Her body had scratches on the neck, signs of asphyxiation and evidence of a heavy blow to the right temple, Alor said. Investigators believe she was suffocated Monday night before being dumped in the sewer about 80 meters (yards) from her hotel room, he said.

"What we need to determine is whether that blow was from falling into the sewer," Alor said.

Her husband had scratches on his face and arms, he said, and several guests heard an argument in the couple's room Monday night. Bruce Beresford-Redman told a hotel employee sent to check on them that they were fighting over their two children, Alor added.



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BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

Stocks rise on more signs of growth; Dow tops 11K



Traders and Specialists observe the monitors on the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange Friday, April 9, 2010, in New York.
(AP Photo/David Karp)a

By STEPHEN BERNARD and IEVA M. AUGSTUMS, AP Business Writers
NEW YORK – Fresh signs that the economy continues to recover sent the Dow Jones industrial average briefly above 11,000 Friday for the first time in 18 months.
The Dow hadn't crossed that level since Sept. 29, 2008, just as the worst phase of the financial crisis was beginning.
The Dow very briefly went over 11,000 in the final five minutes of trading Friday before settling slightly lower. The average of 30 industrial stocks ended with a gain of 70 points. Broader indexes also rose.
Stocks got a boost after reassuring statements from Greece's finance minister and the head of the European Central Bank. Major European indexes closed higher, while the dollar fell against the euro.
Major indexes pulled back briefly after Fitch Ratings cut its view on Greece's debt, but quickly recovered. Stocks have been fluctuating in recent days and the euro has weakened because

of concerns that Greece might default on its debt.
Greece's deepening fiscal crisis has upset other financial markets and caused concerns that other weak European countries also might default on their debt, which could cause a crisis for Europe's shared currency.
"If (Greece) falls apart, it makes everything else there fall apart," Chip Cobb, a senior vice president at Bryn Mawr Trust Asset Management in Bryn Mawr, Pa. "Greece is becoming a real thorn in the side."
Rising commodity prices also helped energy and material stocks, pushing indexes higher. Commodities mostly climbed on hopes demand will jump as the economy continues to improve. Chevron Corp. and ExxonMobil Corp. both rose.
The Dow Jones industrial average crept toward 11,000 throughout the day, having come within 12 points of that barrier on both Monday and Tuesday before closing lower.
While the Dow's approach to 11,000 has been a big focus for many individual investors, a

number of Wall Street analysts downplay its importance for professional money managers. The Dow has crossed the 11,000 level 34 times since first hitting it in May of 1999.

"Round numbers are always psychologically significant," but rarely do they represent a technical milestone such as an index breaking out of a recent trading range, said Uri Landesman, head of global growth at ING Investment Management in New York.

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow rose 70.28, or 0.6 percent, to close at 10,997.35. The Standard & Poor's 500 index climbed 7.93, or 0.7 percent, to 1,194.37. The Nasdaq composite index rose 17.24, or 0.7 percent, to 2,454.05. The Dow's rise Friday gives the index its sixth straight weekly gain for the first time since a stretch in March and April last year, just after market bottomed out at 12-year lows. The Dow started the day at exactly the same level it closed last week.

Ex-Fannie CEO apologizes, blames business model



Former President and CEO of Fannie Mae Daniel Mudd (R) testifies at the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission hearing as former Executive Vice President and Chief Business Officer of Fannie Mae Robert Levin listens on Capitol Hill in Washington April 9, 2010. REUTERS/Jim Young

By Corbett B. Daly and Kevin Drawbaugh

WASHINGTON (Reuters) – The former chief of Fannie Mae, the top U.S. mortgage finance company whose purchase of risky home loans led to a massive government bailout, on Friday apologized for the company's failings and shouldered the blame. But even as Daniel Mudd, who was ousted as chief executive when government regulators seized Fannie Mae in September 2008, accepted responsibility, he said the company's business model created an unmanageable situation.

"I was the CEO of the company and I accept responsibility for everything that happened on my watch," Mudd said at a hearing before a congressional investigative panel assigned to probe the origins of the 2007-2009 financial crisis.

A former government regulator who oversaw Fannie and its sister firm Freddie Mac gave a more blistering assessment.

Fannie Mae, along with Freddie Mac, was placed under the control of regulators when its business was in disarray and the U.S. housing market was in free-fall.

The two companies have received more than \$100 billion in government support, and have said more aid will be needed.

The spectacular failures of the two firms -- both government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs) created to expand mortgage finance but which operated as private, profit-making companies -- marked a turning point in their controversial history and in the U.S. housing market.

Congress and the Obama administration, consumed for the past two years with shoring up Wall Street and the banking system, have barely begun to figure out how to fix the GSEs, which own or guarantee half of all U.S. residential mortgages.

"The Fannie and Freddie model of publicly traded and privately held government-chartered companies is inherently flawed," said Armando Falcon, former regulator of the two companies in testimony following Mudd's at the hearing held by Congress' Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission.

Falcon, former director of the defunct U.S. Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, said the present set-up gives the GSEs "market and political power that ... breeds arrogance, greed, excessive risk taking and abuse."

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

NBA Roundup

Nuggets hold on to edge Lakers

DENVER (AP) — Carmelo Anthony scored 31 points and made a game-saving block at the buzzer to help the Denver Nuggets hold on for a 98-96 win over the Los Angeles Lakers in Thursday's NBA action.

With time winding down, Anthony blocked Derek Fisher's shot as Denver won its fourth straight.

The slumping Lakers gave Kobe Bryant the night off to rest a swollen right knee and an aching right index finger.

Despite a late-season form wobble, Los Angeles remains in control for the top seed in the Western Conference playoffs. The Lakers needs just one more win in their last four or just one more loss by Denver to wrap it up.

Bulls 109, Cavaliers 108

In Chicago, the hosts survived some shaky free-throw shooting down the stretch to beat a Cleveland team minus LeBron James.

Derrick Rose scored 24 points and Kirk Hinrich had 23 as the Bulls moved into a tie with eighth-place Toronto in the



Denver Nuggets forward Carmelo Anthony, center, loses control of the ball while driving the lane between Los Angeles Lakers forwards Lamar Odom, left, and Ron Artest in the first quarter of an NBA basketball game in Denver on Thursday, April 8, 2010.

Associated Press

Eastern Conference. The Raptors hold the tiebreaker, but with Chris Bosh injured, Chicago's chances are looking good.

The Bulls prevailed even though Rose and Luol Deng each missed two free throws in the final 15 seconds.

Cleveland's Mo Williams scored a season-high 35 points on a night when James was rested.

Kings 116, Clippers 94

In Sacramento, California, Sacramento snapped an eight-game losing streak while extending Los Angeles skid to seven.

Tyreke Evans had 28 points, six rebounds and seven assists for the Kings, who saw their 16-point halftime trimmed to eight after three quarters.

Sacramento had a 16-2 to run to start the fourth in pushing their lead to 100-78. It was the first time in nine games that the Kings topped 100 points.

Chris Kaman scored 23 points for the Clippers.

In other NBA games it was, Chicago 109, Cleveland 108; Sacramento 116, L.A. Clippers 94; and Denver 98, L.A. Lakers 96.



Juan Ignacio Chela of Argentina, hits a backhand return against Lleyton Hewitt, of Australia, in a quarterfinal tennis match at the US Men's Clay Court Championships at River Oaks Country Club in Houston, Friday, April 9, 2010. Chela defeated Hewitt 6-4, 6-3.

Associated Press.

Chela beats defending champion Hewitt

HOUSTON (AP) — Argentina's Juan Ignacio Chela beat injury-slowed defending champion Lleyton Hewitt of Australia 6-4, 6-3 on Friday in the quarterfinals of the U.S. Men's Clay Court Championships.

Hewitt, seeded fourth, played in his first tournament since undergoing surgery on his right hip Jan. 29. He made one charge after falling behind 5-0 in the second set, breaking the Argentine in the sixth and eighth games.

Chela, ranked 84th, ended the brief rally by breaking back in the ninth game.

Third-seeded Sam Querrey of the United States also advanced, overcoming an erratic serve to beat Chile's Nicolas Massu 6-3, 3-6, 6-4.

Hewitt struggled in his first singles match of the tournament against lucky loser Somdev Devvaman of India. Hewitt needed three sets and a third set tie-breaker to survive against the 116th-ranked challenger, 1-6, 6-0, 7-6 (2).

AL Roundup

Anderson steers A's past Mariners

OAKLAND, California (AP) — Oakland's Brett Anderson held Seattle scoreless into the seventh inning to set up the Athletics' 6-2 win over the Mariners in Thursday's American League West clash.

Anderson struck out four and walked one to take the win.

Daric Barton drove in a career-high four runs for the A's.

Twins 10, Angels 1

In Anaheim, California, Brendan Harris hit a tiebreaking two-run homer as Minnesota thumped Los Angeles.

Jim Thome drove in three more runs with his 565th career home run.

The Angels' 1-3 start is their worst for 18 years.

The Twins already have nine homers, and have gone over the fence in each of their first four games for the first time since 1997.

Tigers 7, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Missouri, Miguel Cabrera homered and drove in four runs to lift Detroit over Kansas City.

Tigers starter Dontrelle Willis turned in six solid innings in his



Oakland Athletics' Brett Anderson works against the Seattle Mariners during the first inning of a baseball game Thursday, April 8, 2010, in Oakland, Calif.

Associated Press

first regular-season start in almost 10 months.

Willis, plagued with chronic wildness during his shortened 2009 season, walked the first batter he faced on four pitches. But the former two-time National League All-Star issued only one more base on balls and had four strikeouts, giving up two runs.

Continued on page 15

Top 10s not enough for Biffle to pass Johnson yet

STEPHEN HAWKINS

AP Sports Writer

AVONDALE, Arizona (AP)

— With another top-10 finish, Greg Biffle will match Jimmie Johnson. That still may not be enough to overtake the dominating champion.

Biffle goes into Phoenix International Raceway on Saturday night looking for his seventh consecutive top-10 finish to open the season, a feat last accomplished by Johnson — five years ago, the season before the No. 48 Hendrick Motorsports team began its unprecedented and ongoing run of four consecutive NASCAR Sprint Cup championships.

Even with the best start in his career, Biffle is still second in the season points.

Guess who the Roush Fenway Racing driver is chasing, though it is a slim 14-point margin. Johnson, who has won three of the five races since finishing 35th with a rear axle problem at the season-opening Daytona 500. “We’ve been good so far, and that’s not good enough,” Biffle said. “You’ll have to be flawless at this. And we’ve been good so far. We’ve been good everywhere we’ve been. That’s not good enough. We’re going to have to be better than that. We know that.”

Especially at Phoenix.

Johnson has won four of the last five races at the oddly shaped mile track. The eight victories by Hendrick Racing are the most by any team there, and includes Mark Martin’s victory last April that came 16 years after his only other Phoenix victory while driving for Roush.

Roush has the second-most wins at Phoenix with five, though Biffle has none. Biffle’s has three top-five finishes, his best there a runner-up finish to Johnson in November 2007.

After having two of the last four weekends off, including last week for Easter, the Cup drivers arrived in the desert for the start of a stretch of 14 consecutive races.

“You go away for a week and relax and recharge your batteries,” Johnson said. “When I came in and saw the cars, I got that feeling of goosebumps and got fired up to be back at the race track and looking forward to it.”

For everyone else, the challenge resumes to try to unseat Johnson from the top of the standings.

Biffle is the closest to doing that,

though Matt Kenseth is only two points behind his Roush teammate.

Kenseth had finished in the top eight of every race until two weeks ago at Martinsville, when he and Jeff Gordon got tangled up during the final restart. Instead of another high finish, and possibly his first victory since winning the first two races of the 2009 season, Kenseth slipped to 18th

while Hendrick driver Gordon finished third.

“I can’t say I’m happy about it, but yet it’s a new week,” Kenseth said. “Just got to forget about it and move on.”

Biffle said he is “really focused” on leading the points. He has won Nationwide Series and truck races at Phoenix, and a first-time Cup victory there could get him what he wants.



Greg Biffle, from left, leads Kurt Busch, Jimmie Johnson, and Juan Pablo Montoya, during the the NASCAR Sprint Cup series Food City 500 auto race at Bristol Motor Speedway in Bristol, Tenn., Sunday, March 21, 2010.


Associated Press



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RAFFLE SCHEDULE

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Location: | Crystal Casino on Fridays |
| Raffle Dates: | April 9th, 16, 23, 30, 2010 |
| Time: | 9:00 p.m. |
| Location: | Seaport Casino on Saturdays |
| Raffle Dates: | April 10th, 17, 24, May 1st, 2010 |
| Time: | 9:00 p.m. |



NHL Roundup

Sharks close in on Western Conference crown

SAN JOSE, California (AP) — The San Jose Sharks moved a step closer to clinching top spot in the NHL's Western Conference by beating the Vancouver Canucks 4-2 on Thursday.

Joe Thornton scored his first goal since returning from a lower-body injury, while Joe Pavelski, Manny Malhotra and Logan Couture also netted for the Sharks.

San Jose leads Chicago by two points heading into the final weekend of the regular season, but the Blackhawks have a game in hand and the tiebreaker edge.

The Northwest Division champion Canucks are locked in as the third seed for the playoffs.

The only question for Vancouver is whether Henrik Sedin will be the first Canucks player to win the NHL scoring title. Sedin had an assist, giving him 108 points on the season — two more than Washington's Alex Ovechkin.

Pavel Demitra and Andrew



Shark attack

Vancouver Canucks' Henrik Sedin, from left, San Jose Sharks' Kent Huskins, Joe Thornton, a referee, Sharks' Dany Heatley and Canucks Kevin Bieska scuffle during the third period of an NHL hockey game, Thursday, April 8, 2010 in San Jose, Calif. The Sharks beat the Canucks 4-2. Associated Press

Ga. DA to announce decision on Ben Roethlisberger case

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga. — A district attorney in Georgia plans to announce Monday whether he will file charges in a case of sexual assault accusations against Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger.

District Attorney Fred Bright said in a statement Friday he has reviewed all the investigation reports and will hold a news conference to announce his decision.

Milledgeville police Chief Woodrow Blue said Wednesday his department and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation had wrapped up their investigation into a 20-year-old college student's claim that the two-time Super Bowl champion sexually assaulted her early March 5 at a club in Milledgeville.

Attorneys for both Roethlisberger and the woman did not immediately return calls seeking comment Friday.

It was the second time in a year that Roethlisberger

has been accused of sexual misconduct. He also faces a lawsuit filed last July by a woman who says he raped her in 2008 at a Lake Tahoe hotel and casino, an allegation he denies. Roethlisberger has not been criminally charged in either case and has claimed counter-damages in the lawsuit.

Roethlisberger's lawyer, Ed Garland, has disputed the Georgia assault claim and hired his own team to investigate. Garland did not immediately return calls to The Associated Press but told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution that he didn't know what the DA's decision would be and was awaiting the announcement.

Roethlisberger did not report to Pittsburgh's offseason workouts last month. The next critical day for players is April 19, when on-field practice starts. Most of the team is expected to be on hand then.



In this Jan. 3, 2010 file photo, Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger is shown on the sideline during an NFL football game against the Miami Dolphins in Miami. District Attorney Fred Bright in Georgia said Friday, April 9, 2010 that he plans to announce Monday whether charges will be brought in a case of sexual assault accusations against Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger. Associated Press

Alberts scored for Vancouver.

Coyotes 3, Kings 2, SO

In Los Angeles, Phoenix overcame a two-goal deficit in the closing stages to beat Los Angeles.

Drew Doughty and Jack Johnson scored in regulation for the Kings before Matthew Lombardi and Taylor Pyatt scored 1:24 apart in the third period to tie it for the Coyotes.

Phoenix's Adrian Aucoin scored the winner in the fourth round of the shootout.

Bruins 3, Sabres 1

In Boston, the hosts beat Buffalo to solidify their position in the Eastern Conference playoff race. With the win, Boston moved out of eighth place in the East and passed Philadelphia to tie for sixth with Montreal.

Dennis Wideman got the go-ahead goal while Miroslav Satan and Mark Recchi also tallied for the Bruins, who scored more than twice for the first time in almost a fortnight.

Derek Roy scored for Buffalo, which had clinched the Northeast Division title.

Penguins 7, Islanders 3

In Pittsburgh, Sidney Crosby took the NHL lead with his 49th goal and became the third-youngest player in NHL history to reach the 500-point mark, leading Pittsburgh to a rout of New York.

Crosby finished with four points, assisting on goals by Alex Goligoski and Bill Guerin, giving him 104 points for the

season and 501 in his five-season career.

The only players younger than Crosby to hit the 500-point mark faster were Wayne Gretzky and Mario Lemieux.

Crosby was originally credited with his 50th goal — it would have been the first time in his career he reached that mark — but the goal was reviewed after the game and given instead to Guerin, giving him two.

Brooks Orpik, Evgeni Malkin and Tyler Kennedy also scored for Pittsburgh. Kyle Okposo, Matt Moulson and Jose Bailey scored for New York.

Panthers 3, Devils 2

In Sunrise, Florida, Radek Dvorak and Nathan Horton scored in the third period to lift Florida over New Jersey.

Scott Clemmensen made 42 saves against his former New Jersey teammates and Michael Frolik added a goal for the Panthers.

Patrik Elias and David Clarkson scored for the Devils in their final road game of the regular season.

Stars 3, Ducks 2, SO

In Dallas, Mike Modano had a goal and an assist in regulation in possibly his final home game with the Stars, then scored in the second round of the shootout to help Dallas beat Anaheim.

Bobby Ryan scored twice for Anaheim, including a power-play goal that gave the Ducks a 2-1 edge late in the third period. But Modano deflected Trevor Daley's shot out of the air and past goalie Jonas Hiller with 1:47 left in regulation to tie it at 2. Rookie Jamie Benn also scored for Dallas.

Wild 2, Flames 1, SO

In Calgary, Brent Burns and Antti Miettinen scored in a shootout to lift Minnesota past Calgary.

Chuck Kobasew opened the scoring for Minnesota on a power play in the first period, and Nigel Dawes tied it in the second.

Lightning 4, Senators 3, SO

In Tampa, Florida, Tampa Bay gave up a three-goal lead before edging Ottawa in a shootout.

Teddy Purcell scored in the third round of a shootout to rescue the win for the Senators. Purcell and Martin St. Louis scored first-period goals, and Steven Stamkos added his 48th goal of the season early in the second on a power play to make it 3-0.

Ottawa's Nick Foligno made it 3-1 midway through the second. Jason Spezza added a power-play goal late in the second, and Mike Fisher tied it with another power-play goal early in the third.

NL Roundup

Gomes' homer sends Reds over Cardinals 2-1

CINCINNATI (AP) — Jonny Gomes' solo homer with one out in the bottom of the ninth inning lifted the Cincinnati Reds to their first win of the season, 2-1 over the St. Louis Cardinals in the National League on Thursday.

Gomes connected on a 2-2 pitch from Jason Motte (0-1), brought into the game to face him.

Francisco Cordero (1-0) pitched a perfect ninth in relief of Bronson Arroyo, who went the first eight innings and singled home a run.

After scoring 17 runs in the first two games, the Cardinals managed only four hits in the series finale, including Matt Holliday's first homer.

Dodgers 10, Pirates 2

At Pittsburgh, Ronnie Belliard homered among three extra base hits and drove in four runs to help Los Angeles avoid being swept in a three-game series by Pittsburgh for the first time in 10 years.

The Dodgers played without middle-of-the-lineup hitters Andre Ethier (left ankle) and Manny Ramirez (day off), but still got 16 hits off four Pirates pitchers. Reed Johnson doubled among



Cincinnati Reds' Jonny Gomes jump onto home plate after hitting a solo home run against the St. Louis Cardinals in the ninth inning of a baseball game Thursday, April 8, 2010, in Cincinnati. The Reds won 2-1.

Associated Press

three hits and scored twice, and Matt Kemp, James Loney and Garret Anderson drove in two runs each.

Belliard finished 3 for 5 and a single short of the cycle. Chad Billingsley (1-0) limited

the Pirates to a run over 5 1-3 innings.

Nationals 6, Phillies 5

At Washington, Ryan Zimmerman drove in the tiebreaking run off new Philadelphia reliever Nelson

Figueroa with a shot to shallow right field that landed inches fair, as the Washington avoided a season-opening, three-game sweep.

Willie Harris hit a two-run homer for the Nationals, and Tyler Clippard (1-0) earned the victory with 1 2-3 innings of relief. Matt Capps worked around Chase Utley's leadoff double in the ninth for his first save with Washington.

Figueroa (0-1) was added to the roster Thursday after being waived by the Mets.

Cubs 2, Braves 0

At Atlanta, Randy Wells pitched six scoreless innings and Carlos Marmol stranded two baserunners in the ninth inning as Chicago blanked Atlanta.

Rookie Tyler Colvin and Marlon Byrd homered for Chicago, which had only four hits.

Wells (1-0), who combined with four relievers on the eight-hit shutout, outpitched Tommy Hanson (0-1) in a matchup of top 2009 rookies. The Cubs avoided a three-

game sweep.

Atlanta's Chipper Jones left the game after the third inning with a sore right side and is listed as day to day.

Marlins 3, Mets 1

At New York, Nate Robertson pitched five solid innings in his first start for Florida in eight seasons.

Jorge Cantu hit a tiebreaking RBI double in the fifth and Gaby Sanchez added a run-scoring double in the sixth for Florida, which took the last two of the three-game set after losing 7-1 on opening day.

The Mets wasted an effective outing by Jonathon Niese (0-1), who allowed three runs and eight hits in six innings. Jeff Francoeur hit an RBI double in the fourth but that was all New York could manage against Robertson (1-0).

In other NL games it was L.A. Dodgers 10, Pittsburgh 2; Cincinnati 2, St. Louis 1; Washington 6, Philadelphia 5; Chicago Cubs 2, Atlanta 0; and Florida 3, N.Y. Mets 1.

AL Roundup

Continued from page 12

The Royals bullpen blew three saves in the season-opening three-game series against the Tigers.

Blue Jays 3, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Texas, Toronto rallied with three runs in the ninth to beat Texas.

Rangers closer Frank Francisco failed in his first save attempt of the season. He gave up a leadoff homer to Vernon Wells — his fourth homer in three games — then a triple, the go-ahead sacrifice fly and an RBI single.

Orioles 5, Rays 4

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Baltimore starter Brian Matusz allowed only two runs over five innings to steer the Orioles past Tampa Bay.

Matusz overcame control problems to win his fifth straight decision, dating back to last season. The left-hander walked a career-high five but also struck out seven.

Garrett Atkins drove in a pair of runs with a single during a four-run sixth that gave the Orioles a 5-2 advantage. Baltimore had loaded the bases with no outs on a single, hit by pitch and walk.

Indians 5, White Sox 3, 11 innings

In Chicago, Asdrubal Cabrera

hit a tiebreaking, two-out single in the 11th inning to boost Cleveland over Chicago.

Grady Sizemore drove in three runs for the Indians, who moved over .500 for the first time since 2008.

Cabrera's single in the 11th scored Luis Valbuena from second. Sizemore followed with his second RBI double of the night.

In other AL games around the league: Toronto 3, Texas 1; Detroit 7, Kansas City 3; Oakland 6, Seattle 2; Baltimore 5, Tampa Bay 4; Cleveland 5, Chicago White Sox 3, 11 innings; and Minnesota 10, L.A. Angels 1.



Poulter, Westwood in Masters lead; Woods 2 back

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

AUGUSTA, Georgia (AP)

— England's Lee Westwood and Ian Poulter handled a tougher Augusta National on Friday to share the Masters lead as both chase their first major championship and attempt to hold off Tiger Woods.

Poulter, who once boasted that it would be just him and Woods when he reached his potential, made his only bogey on the 18th hole for a second straight 68. Westwood had everything from an eagle to a double bogey in his wild round of 69.

They were at 8-under 136, the first time either of them has been in the lead in a major.

Two shots behind was Woods, a position that has surprised just about everybody except him.

"I usually put myself in contention most of the time here," Woods said after a 2-under 70. "And this year, I'm right there."

If that's not enough big-name contenders, Phil Mickelson is along for the ride.

Mickelson needed a birdie on the 18th hole to be paired with Woods, just as they were in the final round last year. His 65-foot putt banged off the back of the cup before spinning away, giving the left-handed American a 71. Woods and Mickelson were at 138, along with K.J. Choi, Ricky Barnes and Anthony Kim, the American coming off a victory last week in the Houston Open.

Woods has captured so much attention at this Masters because of his swift and spectacular downfall from a sex scandal that kept him out



DYNAMIC DUO

Tiger Woods, L, waves to the gallery on the 18th hole after his second round, and Phil Mickelson takes notes on the 13th green during the second round of the Masters golf tournament in Augusta, Ga., Friday, April 9, 2010.
Associated Press

of golf the last five months. He has been humbled by confessions of cheating on his wife, and one of the lingering questions was whether his personal chaos would make him seem less invincible on the golf course. He has won the Masters all three times when going into the weekend in a tie for third or better.

Y.E. Yang, who rallied to beat Woods at the PGA Championship eight months ago, had a 72 and was at 5-under 139.

"There's a great buzz on the golf course," said Poulter, who played the first two days in front of Woods. "I was happy to tee off when I did. The crowds are 10-deep. That's always good. The tournament is a good one."

Westwood pulled himself out

of a deep slump to regain his status as the best in Europe, and he has been closing in on an elusive major. He came within one putt of getting into a playoff in the U.S. Open in 2008 and the British Open last year.

"It makes me sort of feel that I can contend in these big events now that my game is up to this level," Westwood said. "All in all, I'm delighted the way things are going."

It was a wild ride, for sure. Westwood moved quickly to the top of the leaderboard with a 6-iron into 18 inches for eagle on the second hole, and he had two tries at an eagle at the par 5s on the back nine. But there also was a hook into the trees on the 14th that led to double bogey, and another tee shot into the pines on the 18th that kept

him from the outright lead. Westwood didn't seem the least bit concerned that Woods was lurking.

"I played with Tiger the last round of the U.S. Open (both shot 73 at Torrey Pines), so that's not really an issue," he said. "And I learned a few things, stuff I'm not going to share, because if you get into these situations and learn stuff, what's the point of passing it on? That's what going through these experiences is all about."

Poulter began making his move on the par-3 12th with a shot over the bunker to about 8 feet for birdie. There was muted applause, partly because it's difficult for the fans to see the green, and partly because most of them weren't watching.

"Tiger was on the 11th

green," Poulter said with a grin.

Few players are as brash as Poulter, starting with his stylish, colorful clothes. He wore all pink in the final round of the 2006 U.S. Open, a bold move before a New York gallery, and once wore Union Jack trousers at the British Open.

Asked what would go best with a green jacket, Poulter didn't hesitate.

"Absolutely anything," he said.

As for that boast about joining Woods atop the world ranking ranking one day?

"If I win this week, I'll probably go to No. 2, which would be lovely," Poulter said. "So I guess it's a work in progress. I'm working towards that. So we'll see."



On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Saturday, April 10, 2010

Invitation to Art Expo tonight

ORANJESTAD – You are invited to an Art Exposition by 4 local artists tonight at the Renaissance Convention Center from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. The artists Franco Koolman, Natelie Bislip, Adrian Leslie and Yvette de Cuba –Tulloch are holding this exposition in order to support “Meals On Wheels”, which is an organization that delivers meals to elderly, needy, bed-ridden and those in a wheel chair.

Valero was “Meals On Wheels” main sponsor, however due to the closing of the refinery, they no longer have that sponsorship and are in need of financial support in order to maintain this gracious tradition.

At this exhibition, paintings will be on sale with the proceeds going to the organization to help those in need. Donations will also be accepted. For more information please contact Yvette de Cuba – Tulloch at 584-5761 or 742-9901. Thank you for your support.

With Digicel as main sponsor

AHATA introduces new Shoco Award of Excellence

“Do your work with passion.”

ORANJESTAD—The Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association wants a continuous recognition for those who make our tourism industry an ongoing success. And the association is doing so with the annual Shoco Awards. And this year, AHATA is again in preparation to conduct the extensive search for the most outstanding employees and executives in the Aruba tourism authority.

The Shoco Awards of Excellence is AHATA’s official recognition program focusing on excellence in service, hospitality and outstanding contribution to Aruba’s tourism industry. Whereas in the past, individual organizations were also recognized, today’s awards focus on individual accomplishments that have led to far-reaching results.

Continued on page 2



The Radisson scheduled for a multi-million dollar room refresh

PALM BEACH -- The AAA Four Diamond Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa, situated on 14 acres of the island’s spectacular Palm Beach, has announced that it is embarking on a multi-million dollar room refresh. “This is a very exciting undertaking for us,” states General Manager Rob Smith. “There will not be any construction or radical changes made to the historic design of the property. We will maintain our West Indies-inspired spirit and style so treasured by our loyal resort guests.” Capitalizing on its distinctive architecture and open-air design originally masterminded by the renowned American architect Morris Lapidus in the late 1950s, the furniture, fixtures and décor are being picked to recapture that retro era, dating back to the resort’s conception. Additionally, all of Radisson Aruba Resort’s trademark Colonial West Indian four poster beds will be outfitted with the brand’s custom-designed



Sleep Number® mattresses, allowing guests to adjust firmness and support to their liking at the touch of a button

while resting on plush feather and down pillows. Technology is also being addressed during the refreshment to include the installation of flat screen televisions in every guestroom and surround sound capabilities in suites. To ensure the comfort of guests during this minimally invasive project, the resort will close off one building at a time until the work is complete. As a result, the main noticeable detail guests will experience during the project is fewer fellow-vacationers due to the

reduced room inventory. “This approach will give our guests more privacy while enjoying our 15-acre beachfront, as well as our tropical gardens and host of amenities,” states Smith. The Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa, fondly referred to as La Grande Dame, celebrated its 50th anniversary last summer. During its years as a bastion of island hospitality, the resort underwent a number of renovations and refreshes which account for its evergreen appeal and popularity as Aruba’s most loved resort.

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Chicken Sandwich

Continued from page 2



The Shoco Award was launched eight years ago to motivate individuals in giving their utmost. Initially the Shoco Award was part of the AHATA scholarship program, but with the help of Digicel, member of the association, it has gotten a life of its own. This year AHATA will present a new Shoco Award,

a new design by artists Maritza Erasmus and Edwin Donato. The original design of the award was unveiled in 2005. The new award includes a pedestal that shows the Shoco, the endemic Aruba burrowing owl in various states of concentration.

The Shoco award first received its name by merit of it being something truly symbolic of the island. The owl is one of Aruba's natural treasures, indigenous to the island, and representing wisdom, resourcefulness, focus, vision and a keen sense of direction.

James Hepple, AHATA CEO said the association is encouraged that the experience of past winners does contribute to a positive word of mouth promotion for Aruba.

Bert Schroeder di Digicel said his company has a strategic alliance with AHATA to benefit the tourism industry. Since 2008, Digicel has been the exclusive sponsor of the SHOCO national awards program, aiding in goals of both recognizing the island's leading tourism professionals

as well as spearheading efforts to promote and recognize volunteerism through the Digicel "Shoco Cares" award.

The categories of the award are Employee of the Year, Supervisor of the Year, and Manager of the Year. There will be two awards for each category, one for the hotel sector and one for industry related company. In addition, there is an award for the Young Professional of the Year, and the Lifetime Achievement Award. Digicel added another category, namely the Digicel's Shoco Cares, in its strife to encourage community involvement. In addition to the award, the winner has to chance to indicate the foundation of his or her choice to receive a monetary grant from Digicel.

The nominees will be evaluated on their technical, hospitality and leadership skills, as well as their commitment to community service.

The Shoco Award Program is open to all hotel and allied members of AHATA. Each organization is responsible for allowing for a nominee process within their company, the results of which are measured against established criteria to determine the final choice of a nominee. Submissions include detailed information for each nominee (employee histories, feedback from staff as well as clients, past awards, etc). Interviews are used to verify the information provided by the application and to clarify issues and questions that have arisen during the application review process. The jury pool, composed of qualified independent professionals, review all the collected data in determining the final winner of each category. The 2010 Jury members include Annelien Tromp (CMB), John Wardlaw (University of Aruba) and Carlos Albertus (B & P Interface Aruba N.V. Training & Consultancy), who are serving as judges for the third straight year.

The applications for this year's Awards are due no later than August 20. The judges will hold their consensus meeting on September 6, followed by the interview process which will take place from September 8 to the 25th. The Awards Ceremony is set to take place on October 15th.

The presentation of the 'new' award took place in presence of various past winners, including the 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award winner George Hoek. Hoek, the Manchebo Beach Resort Executive Chef recalled his 45 year-old career that started when he was a 15 year-old dishwasher at the Manchebo. Despite his discontentment with the job and discouraged with the manual labor, he held on, spurred by his grandmother who told him the value of patience. Before long, the young Hoek was able to grow, becoming



an assistant cook, later a cook, working in various positions at the Manchebo and other hotels in Aruba. After the closure of the Sheraton hotel in the 80's he moved to St. Maarten to work as a chef. Hoek came back to the Manchebo in Aruba, but did not stay long as the Hyatt beckoned. George Hoek was given the opportunity to work in Michigan and Colorado as Executive Sous Chef, and when he came back to the island, worked as Executive Chef at the Tierra del Sol golf resort. Again he was off to the US, to work in Miami and Sarasota, constantly perfecting his skills. He received a call

from the Holiday Inn Aruba in 2005 and despite his intentions to retire, assumed to position as Executive Chef there. And when he thought he could finally take off his apron, put away his kitchen utensils, an old friend came calling for help. In 2008 George Hoek made it full circle, as the Executive Chef at the Manchebo Beach Resort. His message to all employees in the industry and particularly the nominees is to have patience and to show determination and dedication. He never forgot the advice of his grandmother, and now offers one of his own. "Do your work with passion."

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Debut for new online casino

A new Curacao-licensed online casino utilizing the Rival Gaming platform has launched at SupremePlay.com and it is giving all new players a chip worth \$22 to check out its games with the possibility of winning real money. SupremePlay.com is owned and operated by Folkestone-based Silverstone Overseas Limited, which is a subsidiary of Bonne Chance NV, and is further offering a welcome bonus worth up to \$888 alongside additional offers for players that take advantage of its special Night Drive and Supreme Weeks promotions. “For the best in online casino gaming, look no further than SupremePlay.com,” read a statement from the new domain. “We stand by offering a young and innovative approach to online gambling as well as cutting-edge technology. Walk with us on the path of a new casino generation. “We offer the perfect escape from the daily routine and allow you the opportunity to express yourself while enjoying real-play online gaming. If you’re an action movie enthusiast, you’ll find the same level of excitement here. If you’re seeking a place to relax and have fun as you would on the sands of an exotic beach, you’ve come to the right place. “SupremePlay.com is a style of gaming besides a casino and the magic is that here you can create and re-create you own style.”

Mom Goes Into Labor On Flight To Aruba



not in Boston,” Alexis laughed. But she’s thankful for the care she received in Aruba, and was in constant communication with Massachusetts General Hospital For Children. “He was very lucky he had only very mild respiratory distress, needing just some oxygen rather than breathing tube or machine,” said Dr. Leslie Kerzner, Alexis’ doctor at MGH for Children. Jack is now two weeks old and very healthy. He arrived back in Boston on Easter. “I feel blessed how healthy he is and that he made it home safely,” said Alexis. “I treasure every moment I look at him and spend time with him.”

Resting comfortably in his mother’s arms, John Robert Fitzgerald Tkachuk will one day have a great story to tell his children. “He was 4 pounds, 13 ounces. Now he’s 5 pounds 5 ounces,” said Alexis Tkachuk as she picked up her son. Two weeks ago, Alexis Tkachuk and her husband, Kevin, were taking a trip to Aruba. “I was cleared. I was only 32 weeks and supposedly you can travel safely until 36 weeks,” she said. In mid-flight, Alexis went into labor on the plane. “First-time mom it was very scary to give birth prematurely. He was eight weeks early, and we were in a foreign country,” the new mother said. To add more stress to the situation, Alexis had not taken any pregnancy classes yet, and when she gave birth in Aruba they didn’t give her any pain medication. “No pain medication, and they kept having me walk back in forth in my labor. And iguana ran across my foot. I said I am definitely



Caribbean law enforcement officials focus on human trafficking

A two-day programme aimed at helping Caribbean law enforcement officials identify and combat trafficking in persons (TIP) gets underway in Grenada on Thursday. The organizers said that TIP is a modern-day form of slavery and a violation of basic human rights involving not only coercive sexual exploitation, but also forced labor, involuntary servitude, and child soldiers. The event is being organised by the Department of Public Security of the Organization of American States with funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). It is intended to train police and immigration officials as well as prosecutors and judges from 13 English-speaking Caribbean countries to increase awareness and support the efforts of law enforcement agencies in combating human trafficking. The project seeks to train law enforcement personnel in such areas as the distinction between trafficking and smuggling; crime scene management; victim identification, assistance and protection; and standard operating procedures for immigration control. It is being held under the theme, “Strengthening Capacity of Law Enforcement Officials, Judges, and Prosecutors in the Caribbean to Identify and Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children”.

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With Mariano Angela and Dario Croes

Professional Pest Control's Master Technicians continue education



ORANJESTAD -- In 2009 Professional Pest Control, Aruba's oldest, largest and most professional pest control company, started training its technicians to become Master Technicians, a higher professional ranking.

On Wednesday, the technicians received a full day of extensive training with Mariano Angela, who has over 25 years of experience in pest control. He gave a presentation on how to perform effective termite defense treatment, applying the right chemical which



guarantees successful results.

Professional Pest Control uses America's #1 Termite defense product: Termidor.

Termidor is a revolutionary non-repellent, also known as undetectable chemical and it has consistently proven itself to be one of the fastest and most effective termite control products, eliminating termites in structures. Termidor is also proven to be equally effective in keeping termites away. The training then continued with Dario Croes who informed all technicians about the best ways to control rodent populations.

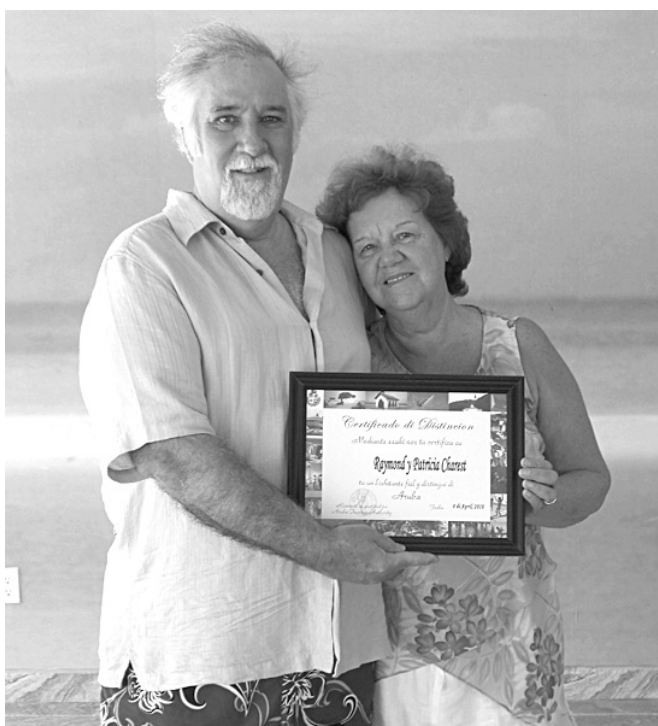
The goal of Professional Pest Control, to improve the quality of its services to customers, and to increase safety for customer and employees, drives the technicians to raise the bar and come up with the best advice and treatment possible in any given situation.



Professional Pest Control Master Technician training will continue June 30TH.

In our photos, Professional Pest Control's employees in their new training facilities.

Special friends honored at the Divi Phoenix Resort



ORANJESTAD - Recently at the Divi Phoenix Resort vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Ambassador of goodwill title. The recent honoring were effected by the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at the Divi Phoenix Resort they call their home away from home, Raymond & Patricia Charest were honored as an distinguished visitor after visiting Aruba for 10 years. Pictured: Raymond & Patricia Charest at the Divi Phoenix Resort.



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Tickets available at Jolly Pirates Shop at MooMba Beach. Boarding at MooMba Beach- by the high rise hotels between Holiday Inn and Marriott Resorts. Offer not valid in combination with other discount offers. Valid for direct telephone reservations only - Present coupon upon boarding.

Loyal friends honored at the Marriott Ocean Club Resort



PALM BEACH - Recently at the Marriott Ocean Club Resort vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Ambassador of goodwill title. The recent honoring were effected by the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at the Marriott Ocean Club Resort they call their home away from home. The following guest were honored as an distinguished visitor after visiting Aruba for 10 years: Ron & Ellen Crocker and also Robin & Benedict Osorio. Pictured: ATA Rep. Ricardo Croes together with honorees and also staff from the Marriott Ocean Club Resort.



Luxury detox clinic opens on Curaçao

A Dutch organization that helps people with addictions, Jellinek, has opened a luxury detox centre on the tropical island of Curaçao, in the Netherlands Antilles, writes de Volkskrant.

For a 'mere' 600 euros a day, the Netherlands' rich and famous are guaranteed complete anonymity at the Jellinek Retreat. The more they pay the more privacy they get. Dutch film stars can even opt to fly via Miami and be picked up from the airport by helicopter to avoid bumping into Dutch tourists, who might recognize them. If they really want, they can even use a pseudonym and stay segregated from other patients.

The project is not without controversy, mainly because it's partly funded by the government. The 600,000-euro subsidy comes from a package of funds designed to stimulate the economy in the Netherlands Antilles.

Some MPs have called for the clinic to be open to local addicts as well. The subsidy does stipulate that at least half the staff – and not just the lowpaid cleaning personnel - must come from the Caribbean islands.

Jellinek says bookings are pouring in, usually arranged by people facing the breakdown of a relationship due to excessive drug or alcohol abuse by their partners.

The clinic defends the project saying the paparazzi know where the detox clinics are in the Netherlands and therefore many 'famous' addicts are forced to go to Great Britain or Germany to kick their habit. De Volkskrant describes the exact location of the luxury retreat, so it looks like it won't be long before the Dutch paparazzi start camping outside there, too.



Kids & Parents Celebrated Easter at Paseo Herencia



NOORD - On Saturday April 3rd, Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center celebrated their Kids Easter event with more than 100 kids and parents. The event started at 5.00pm with a clown show that entertained the kids and their parents with various fun games and fabulous prizes. Dance performances were in the hands of "Kids & Youth in Action" who did a great job. Also there was a Dino jump, face painting, cotton candy and popcorn available for the kids. On the plaza of Paseo Herencia

there were different stands that sold cakes and Easter basket. The event ended with the kids waltzing water show which was spectacular. A special thanks goes to the sponsors who help make this event possible: Suzy's Cookies, The Cinemas, Iguana Cantina, Taste of Belgium, T.G.I. Friday's, Maggy's, Nobushi, Gift Crafter and Haagen Dazs. Paseo Herencia Shopping &

Entertainment Center will be launching a Mother's Day Raffle Campaign starting April 13th. With every purchase of \$20, - or more clients will receive a raffle ticket to participate in the campaign to win various prizes. Stores at Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center are open Monday - Saturday from 10:00AM - 10:00PM and on Sunday from 5:00PM - 10:00PM.



Shoreline Cleanup By USFOL Results In Clean Beaches



CURACAO - On March 20th the U.S. Forward Operating Location (USFOL) in Curacao partnered with several area hotels to clean up the shoreline from the Hilton down to the Renaissance. This area includes the full area of the Koredor. Leading the effort was the Hotel Marriott with manager John Toti, the event's primary organizer. Also joining the effort was the Floris Suite Hotel and Hilton Hotel. The USFOL participated with over 50 volunteers including Commander Lieutenant Colonel Mike Price, combing the shoreline and beach from the Holiday Beach Hotel to the Renaissance. Significant cleanup was

also accomplished around the ball field near the Holiday Beach Hotel. Mr. Toti said, "It is our hope that this will be a great step in cleanup towards "Earth Day" which will occur in the month of April. We also hope that the people of Curacao will help keep this area clean and beautiful after this tremendous effort by so many." In all two dumpsters were filled up with old wooden pallets, tires, glass, and trash of all types. This is but one more example of how the USFOL is partnering with the Curacao local community to "make a difference" in the lives of those who call Curacao home.

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PALM BEACH – The health and calorie conscious among us need fear steakhouses no more. Whether it's a low-carb, low-fat, or even vegetarian diet you follow, Texas de Brazil Churrascaria fits into just about every dieter's menu plan.

Low carb eaters will have all their expectations surpassed with a tempting carnivorous selection of umpteen cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage, and poultry. The meats are prepared in the healthiest style of cooking—slow roasting—where much of the fat drips off in the roasting process, so those looking for a lower fat option to sautéing, pan frying, or deep frying will also be able to indulge.

The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, home-made soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

**Restaurant
open daily**

Monday - Sat 6 pm - 11 pm
Sunday 5 pm - 11 pm

For more information or to make reservations, please call 586-4686. ☐



Fishes & More showcases the best seafood entrees

Ask about the Early
Bird Menu from
4 PM to 6:30 PM



Fishes & More specialize in freshest fish and seafood on the island, and at the same time please the non-fish lovers as well. All the dishes are prepared a la minute by an internationally experienced kitchen team, which gives the twist to the fabulous dishes. Influences from all over

the world are found back on the menu and they are already well known for the daily changing specials. If you have a large party, or if there is anything you feel like in particular, Fishes & More can always arrange to have your dinner cooked just for you, as they work

only with fresh and honest products! Ideally located in front of the Occidental Resort (Former Allegro), they are visited both by individuals and families alike, as they have a super kids menu, so they can enjoy their dinner as much as you

will yours!

Enjoy live entertainment every night at 8PM, and even after dinner the perfect night out continues, as you can shop till you drop since the shops on our friendly

square are open until eleven. See what its like to experience real fresh dining joy with a twist!

Open from 4 pm until midnight

**For reservations call
+(297) 586-3659**

Havana Nines introduces a new Spring Collection



PASEO HERENCIA -- Spring has sprung at Havana Nines and new styles have started arriving on the island, and are currently on display at the boutique at Paseo Herencia. One of the highlights of the season is the introduction of the Havana Nines Polovera. It has the feel and attitude of a guayabera and the look of a polo shirt, but it uniquely

stands alone as a hybrid of two great silhouettes. It also has a small slit pocket, that is a great space for reading glasses or a fine cigar! The Spring features some fun, fresh colors such as cantaloupe, celery, maize, blue Curacao, honeydew, ice blue, butter, pomegranate and azure blue along with the company's core colors

of white, black, caramel and nutmeg. Shopper will see continued influence of the military, via shoulder epaulets, also just-introduced gingham checks and soft stripes, in addition to great solids. The clothes made with Havana Nines cotton stretch chino, are comfortable, yet look very sophisticated no matter what color you choose. In addition, Havana Nines also features a new collection of long sleeved cotton woven shirts in many patterns and colorations. These continue the perfect Havana Nines looks for day and night combined with jeans or dress slacks, perfect for hanging out with friends or dinner at an elegant restaurant. New and fun embroideries and colors also appear on Tranquilo short sleeve shirts, and for the cost conscious shopper these styles are made in linen/cotton and linen/rayon combinations. They have quite a lot of style for a great price! For women, Havana Nines continues the very popular linen drawstring pant as well as the line of ¾ sleeve guayaberas. The company is re-introducing the Halter Guayabera Dress. It has all the pleating and button details of the male guayabera yet in a dress style. And ladies might even consider wearing it as a vest/duster over a tee or tank with leggings. Check out Havana Nines – great Spring vibrant colors balanced with basic, classic colors, new and exciting styles, patterns and looks to keep patrons “dressed to the nines!”



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SUPERB NEW ILLUSIONS

MAGIC Live! Comedy On the Beach 3 shows in 1

At the Westin Aruba at 9.PM nightly



Magician Adam Steinfeld laughs it up, on stage, at the Magic Live!® theater, showroom.

ASTONISHING! EXCITING! MYSTIFYING! FUN! ...enjoy a hilarious evening of Magic, fun for entire family.

PALM BEACH - STEINFELD presents WOW factor! at the MAGIC LIVE!® ...theater-of-illusions show, Westin - Aruba opened on December 25 at 9PM. MAGIC Live!® theater-of-illusions show, starring Adam Steinfeld... is an amazing night of Magic, Grand Illusions and Comedy, superb magic at it's

highest level, a lot of fun from start to finish, laugh-out-loud funny, intelligent, sophisticated, unconventional grand illusions, that will keep you asking, 'how the heck did he do that?' Perfect for the holiday season, have you ever dreamed of disappearing and reappearing in an instant? Master illusionist, comedy magician, Adam Steinfeld opened DEC 25, MagicLive show at the WESTIN, Aruba, nightly 9PM, every night, doors open at 8:30PM, and tickets may be purchased at the door, in the intimate Magic Live!

theater-of-illusions theater, every seat is close to the stage. In his new illusion he calls; "PRESENT", a tall girl steps into a tiny box, elevated in-the-air, the box spins 360 degrees,

then the sections are taken away, one by one, until the girl vanishes completely... right before your eyes!

Then as if that isn't enough to run to your local optometrist, he re-assembles the box for the magicbabe to make a triumphant reappearance. It's an all new original illusion not seen anywhere else in the world.

I went back to see the show during rehearsals, and still couldn't figure out the secret.

Tourists and local fans will remember Steinfeld for past performances, in Aruba,



and on network television, Mr. Steinfeld recently authored "the Houdini Conspiracy", aka "Houdini Lives!", a collaborated work with new england mystery writer

Al Blanchard, he believes will be turned into a feature film.

The intimate Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions showroom is located just off the lobby of the Westin-Aruba in high-rise area, j.e. irausquin boulevard 77. Palm Beach,

Aruba. Magic Live!® BOX OFFICE tickets are located in main lobby. Purchase TICKETS AT THE DOOR.

SEE MAGIC, comedy and "seemingly impossible feats, get ready to marvel at the all new, MAGIC! theater-of-illusions show starring ADAM STEINFELD. MAGIC LIVE! theater-of-illusions show...at the WESTIN-Aruba, 9pm nightly, starring AdamSteinfeld. □



IF YOU GO

What: Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions show
Where: Westin - Aruba, Palm beach (high-rise area)
Who: starring, comedy illusionist, Adam Steinfeld
ShowTime: 9:00 pm, nightly, (7 days a week) theater opens at 8:30pm
Tickets: at the door, MagicLive box office (hotel lobby), or Westin-aruba concierges desk
Box office opens at 7:30pm nightly
Price: \$19.95 under 15, \$29.95 adults

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "From the pier to your plate!"

ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad.

Driftwood owner Herby Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words



"fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on

the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35 ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50 ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on a daily basis from 8am to

Catch your own dinner

12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm. A charter includes: captain, mate, all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included. You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to www.driftwoodaruba.com.

Rates:

\$360 - 1/2 day

\$720- full day

Rates per boat

Max. 6 people



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Driftwood Restaurant

This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their extended

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www.driftwoodaruba.com

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New Spring Car Give-Away Promotion With Final Drawing On April 29

Stellaris Casino Congratulates "Spring" Winners Of March



PALM BEACH – Marriott's Stellaris Casino closed the month of March with the final drawing of the Spring King Cash promotion. Casino guests who accumulated points during the month of March, playing the slot machines and table games were eligible to participate in the Spring King Cash promotion, having the chance to win 15,000 florin in cash prizes.

A total of fifteen lucky players were hand picked from the tombola winning cash prizes varying from 250 up to 2,000 florin. The grand prize winner of

the Spring King Cash promotion was Teresa Savatterre, taking home the amount of 3,000 florin in cash.

After the successful "Spring King Cash" promotion, Aruba largest casino continues its Spring celebrations with a special car promotion during the month of April. The "Stellaris Car Spring Special" gives you the chance to win a brand new Suzuki Swift 2010. In addition, casino guests can win 5,000 florin in cash prizes. For every 20 points earned by playing the slot machines or 25 points earned at the table games,

casino guests will receive one ticket. With these tickets guests are eligible to participate in the "Car Spring Special" and have the chance to win the brand new Suzuki Swift 2010 displayed in the Casino entrance and winning 5,000 florin in cash prizes. The final drawing for the "Stellaris Car Spring Special" is on April 29th, 2010 starting at 9:30 P.M. More information on Aruba's largest casino and events can be found on www.stellariscasino.com. For the most recent updates and happenings in this casino, become a fan of Stellaris Casino on Facebook.



Champions Sports Bar & Restaurant is the Best Place To Watch The UFC Fights

Demian Maia vs. Anderson Silva This Saturday April 10 Starting At 9 Pm



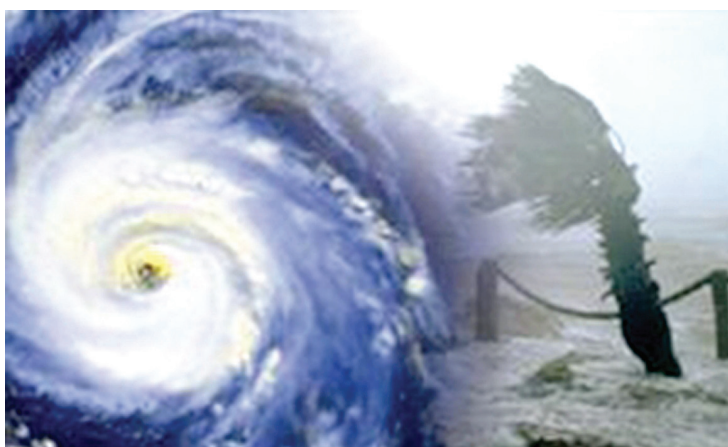
PALM BEACH – This Saturday April 10 Champions Sports Bar & Restaurant, located at the Marriott Aruba Ocean Club presents UFC fight Demian Maia vs. Anderson Silva. The pre fight starts at 9.00PM and Champions offer you the best seats to watch the UFC fight on the 32 TV screens and Champions 2 giant screens.

There will be a 2 for 1 beverage offer on selected brands from 9.30 PM– 11.30 PM. Also Champions has a super special on a nachos platter and a bucket of Coors light for only \$22.

So if you are looking for a place to watch the UFC fight in a great ambiance with specials on drinks and food Champions Sports Bar located at Marriott's Ocean Club is the place to be! More information available on www.facebook.com/Champions Sports Bar & Restaurant.

Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino boasts 411 guestrooms -- the most spacious on the island -- each with large, private balconies overlooking lush landscape and the sparkling waters of the Caribbean Sea. On property, seven restaurants and cafes provide fare from light to elegant, while the largest casino in Aruba, a 6,500 square-foot spa, free-form swimming pool with cascading waterfalls and high-energy health club offer entertaining diversions.

Caribbean prepares for hurricane season



Caribbean countries can expect an above-average 2010 Atlantic hurricane with a 58 per cent chance of a major hurricane affecting the region, respected United States forecasters have said. The team from Colorado State University is predicting as many as eight hurricanes, four of which will become major weather systems with winds in excess of 111 miles per hour, to form over the Atlantic Ocean during the June 1 to November 30 hurricane season. In all, it said that there

would be up to 15 named storms. Dr. Phil Klotzbach, the lead forecaster on the university's hurricane forecast team, said the prediction was based on the premise that El Nino conditions continue until the summer. "We expect current moderate El Nino conditions to transition to neutral conditions by this year's hurricane season," Dr Klotzbach said in a statement. "The dissipating El Nino, along with the expected anomalously warm Atlantic ocean sea surface temperatures, will

lead to favorable dynamic and thermodynamic conditions for hurricane formation and intensification," he added. The team predicts tropical cyclone activity in 2010 will be 160 per cent of the average season. By comparison, 2009 witnessed tropical cyclone activity that was about 70 percent of the average season. The 2010 forecast marks 27 years of hurricane forecasting at Colorado State, led by Dr. William Gray. The hurricane forecast team said it makes its predictions based on 58 years of historical data. "While patterns may change before the start of hurricane season, we believe current conditions warrant concern for an above-average season," Dr. Gray said. Long-term averages are 9.6 named storms, 5.9 hurricanes and 2.3 major hurricanes per year, the team said. The Colorado State University team said it will issue forecast updates on June 2 and August 4.

U.S. Military FOL Hosts Curacao Youth Air Brigade



CURACAO - On March 30th the U.S. Forward Operating Location (USFOL) in Curacao sponsored a tour of their facility for the Youth Air Brigade. 30+ cadets and leaders were given clearance to tour the

facility, receive a mission briefing, tour two different aircraft (E-3 AWACS, KC-135 tanker), and one of the fire trucks. USFOL flight crew members were on hand to answer the many questions

offered up by the cadets. One cadet in the mission brief asked, "Is it possible for one of us to ever fly those planes?" The commander, Lt. Col. Mike Price said, "I am not sure but there is a program whereby foreign nationals can enter the U.S. military as enlisted members and then apply for US citizenship but you would have to check if that applies to Dutch citizens." All in all it was a banner day with bridges built and reestablished between the USFOL and the Curacao Youth Air Brigade. The excitement and passion for aviation was quite obvious on every cadet's face as they experienced the tour in awesome wonder. Youth Air Brigade leader Sherwin Gerard was very grateful for this opportunity for his cadets and commented, "This tour has meant so much to us and we have wanted this type of relationship with the USFOL for quite a while. Thanks for making the effort to invite us here today and making this contribution to the lives of these cadets." The USFOL plans to continue to offer these tours periodically to cadets in the future.



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| Noord | 587-0009 |
| Sta. Cruz | 585-4710 |
| Savaneta | 584-7000 |
| San Nicolas | 584-5000 |

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| Polis | 100 |
| Brandweer | 115 |
| Brandweer II | 582-1108 |
| Tipline di Polis | 11141 |
| Hospital | 587-4300 |

Oranjestad

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| Ambulance | 582-1234 |
| Warda Polis | 582-4000 |
| BGD Oranjestad | 582-8877 |

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| Ambulance | 584-5050 |
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| BGD San Nicolas | 584-1606 |
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| 1BR | WK 11 | ROOM 805 | O.V. | \$ 8.000 |
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Michelle Obama realizará una visita oficial a México la próxima semana

Washington, 9 abr (EFE).- La primera dama de EE.UU., Michelle Obama, irá a México la próxima semana en su primera visita oficial en solitario durante la que tendrá, entre otros, varios actos con jóvenes de ese país, informó hoy la Casa Blanca.

Michelle Obama tiene previsto llegar a Ciudad de México el martes por la noche, según un comunicado de la Casa Blanca.

El miércoles tendrá una reunión privada con la primera dama mexicana, Margarita Zavala, en la residencia oficial de Los Pinos, y recorrerá a continuación el Museo Nacional de Antropología, que alberga la mayor colección de piezas mexicanas antiguas en el mundo.

El viaje oficial de la primera dama estadounidense incluye, también, ese día una visita a la Escuela Siete de Enero, un centro de educación primaria al que acuden niños de bajos



Michelle Obama tiene previsto llegar a Ciudad de México el martes por la noche, según un comunicado de la Casa Blanca.

recursos.

Michelle Obama se trasladará a continuación a la sede de la Universidad Iberoamericana, una institución multidisciplinar con más de 11.000 estudiantes y donde tiene previsto pronunciar un discurso en el que estará presente también Margarita Zavala.

La primera dama estadounidense acudirá la noche del miércoles a una recepción en la residencia oficial de Los Pinos en la que participarán mujeres mexicanas en posiciones de liderazgo y en la que el presidente Felipe Calderón y su esposa harán de anfitriones.

La agenda de Michelle Obama finalizará el jueves con una visita a la embajada estadounidense en la capital mexicana.

Antes de regresar a Washington se reunirá con un grupo de jóvenes líderes en la Hacienda de los Morales, un centro cuya historia se remonta al siglo XVI.

Durante el encuentro, la primera dama de EE.UU. pedirá a los asistentes que compartan sus experiencias con ella y los animará a que continúen ejerciendo la misma posición de liderazgo en las comunidades en las que viven, según el comunicado de la Casa Blanca.

México: millones podrían quedarse sin línea de celular

Ciudad de Mexico - Este fin de semana podrían desconectar unas 30 millones de líneas de celulares. Millones de mexicanos podrían quedarse sin línea de celular si no envían antes del sábado sus datos de identidad al Registro Nacional de Usuarios de Telefonía Móvil (Renaut), en cumplimiento a una nueva ley orientada a combatir la delincuencia.

“Por medio de este mecanismo, se coadyuva en la prevención, investigación y persecución de delitos como el secuestro y la extorsión. Casos en los que, frecuentemente, se utilizan teléfonos móviles”, explicó recientemente en un comunicado la secretaria de Comunicaciones y Transportes de México.

Según la iniciativa del gobierno, todos aquellos

con teléfonos celulares deben enviar un mensaje de texto con sus datos personales o de lo contrario se les cortará el servicio.

Hasta la fecha se han registrado en el Renaut el 64% de los aparatos existentes en el país, lo que significa que todavía quedan unos 30 millones de números sin identificar.

La medida incluye tanto a las líneas pospago como las prepago. Todas deben tener como mínimo el nombre y la fecha de nacimiento del usuario.

Durante semanas el gobierno ha lanzado una campaña haciendo un llamado a los mexicanos para que registren sus líneas. Y si bien más de la mitad lo ha hecho a día de hoy, a los operadores les preocupan las decenas de millones de números que todavía quedan por hacerlo.

Según la Comisión Federal de Telecomunicaciones, en promedio, cada día se registran unos 475.000 celulares. Lo que significa que de continuar esta tendencia, se necesitarían 60 días para que todas las líneas queden en la base de datos gubernamental.

Dificultades

América Móvil, la empresa de telecomunicaciones más grande de ese país, controlada por el magnate mexicano Carlos Slim, pidió al gobierno que extendiera el plazo de registro. Pero la Cámara Alta del Senado rechazó la moción.

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Liberan en Cancún a productor televisivo EEUU tras crimen esposa

CANCUN, México (Reuters) - El productor de televisión estadounidense Bruce Beresford-Redman fue liberado la madrugada del viernes en el balneario mexicano de Cancún, tras haber sido detenido el día anterior como sospechoso del crimen de su esposa, informaron las autoridades. El cadáver de la mujer, Mónica Burgos, fue hallado en la mañana del jueves en una fosa séptica ubicada en el perímetro de un lujoso hotel donde vacacionaba desde el 31 de marzo con su esposo y sus dos hijos.

Tras el hallazgo, la procuraduría (fiscalía) del estado de Quintana Roo, donde se ubica Cancún, dijo que el cuerpo presentaba señales de estrangulamiento y golpes, pero más tarde la autopsia estableció que murió por un golpe en la cabeza.

“Las agravantes establecidas en las investigaciones no infieren a Bruce Beresford-Redman como directamente implicado”, dijo a Reuters la directora de Averiguaciones Previas de la Policía Ministerial, Verónica Acacio.

Beresford-Redman, quien fue productor del reality show “Survivor” y actualmente de “Pimp my ride” (en español “Enchúlame la máquina”, transmitido por MTV), no podrá salir de México mientras duran las investigaciones, dijo Acacio.

El productor permanecerá en el hotel Moon Palace, donde se alojaba, y el consulado de Estados Unidos se hará responsable de que permanezca en Cancún, agregó la funcionaria. Beresford-Redman declaró desde la tarde del jueves por 9 horas hasta la madrugada del viernes y era el principal sospechoso del crimen, sobre todo luego de que personal del hotel y huéspedes dijeron haber oído fuertes discusiones entre la pareja la noche del lunes.

El reporte de la autopsia estableció que Burgos, una brasileña nacionalizada estadounidense, falleció el lunes entre las 11 y las 12 de la noche.

Policía mexicana escoltan al productor de televisión estadounidense Bruce Beresford-Redman, en Cancún. Abr 8 2010. El productor de televisión estadounidense Bruce Beresford-Redman fue liberado la madrugada del viernes en el balneario mexicano de Cancún, tras haber sido detenido el día anterior como sospechoso del crimen de su esposa, informaron las autoridades. REUTERS/Gerardo Garcia



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